

SECTION
'97
CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP

P.E.I.'s new link



Bailey's dash for cash

Maclean's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

JUNE 2, 1997

GUNNING FOR CHRETEN

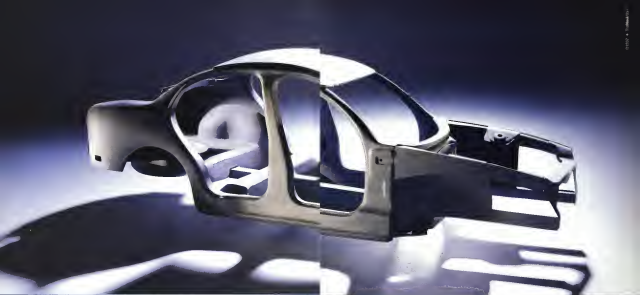
- As the Bloc plunges, Manning and Charest battle to lead the opposition
- Key ridings to watch on election night



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Maclean's This Week

JUNE 7, 1997 VOL 130 NO 22

CANADIAN
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Cover Gunning for Chrétien

16 With the federal election campaign entering its final days, the level of vitriol is on the rise as the opposition parties take aim at the Liberals and at each other. Although the polls point towards another majority for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, voters remain volatile—and may demonstrate on June 7 that the Swif Thing is an increasingly rare thing in Canadian politics.



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Canada's Governor Bailey takes an America's Michael Jordan in a much hoped 150m match race in Toronto. They will run for fortune, fame and even country but will not—at least in Bailey's eyes—determine the World's Fastest Man.



76 So long, and thanks

After 25 years of thought-provoking programming, CBC Movingcode host Peter Szewski is signing off. The show's producers, guests and contributors share some memories.



30 P.E.I.'s new link

Confederation Bridge is set to open, but the 13.4-km-long fixed link continues to influence the province of Atlantic. No other issue has so dominated—or so divided—public opinion in Canada's smallest province.

From The Editor

Hearts and minds



Question: If unemployment is the number 1 problem cited by Canadians, why has the election been dominated by national unity and Quebec?

Politicians and pollsters do not have an answer. The voters apparently have not made a connection between their anxiety about sustained unemployment and their voting intentions. At least that is the lesson from polls showing the *Liberals* leading into the first week with a good chance to form a majority government.

The *Liberals* are helped by the fact that few Canadians believe any party has an answer to the problem of joblessness. That tendency was evident in last year's annual year-end *Maclean's* poll: fully 76 per cent of respondents said that no federal party had "concrete solutions" to "the major challenges we are facing as a nation." Now, six months later, the fundamentalism of the system lingers.

It has made for a strange campaign. Voters have been discouraged and the politicians have resorted to increasingly more bitter attacks to get attention. Last week, much of the vitriol was directed at Reform Leader Preston Manning, who has defied most expectations and become the lightning rod of the campaign. During an hour-long debate organized by *Maclean's* and the *Cbc*/West Global TV network, Manning at once pooped and plausibly snarled, hectoring from four other party representatives: "I'm the subject of attack here, so let me respond."

The reason for all of the attention is that Manning has broken the mould in federal politics by rejecting a long tradition of accommodation politics at the national level, just as certainly as the *Bloc*

Quebecois advocates independence for Quebec. Manning has delivered a tough love message to Quebecers. Indeed, his ads advocating a "vote for all Canadians, not just Quebec politicians" are seen as a thinly veiled dig at French Canadians.

In Ontario, Manning is taking that hard-edged message to the Toronto suburbs and rural areas where Reform placed second in 50 of the 99 ridings in the 1990 election. If that campaign is successful, he is likely to emerge as the leader of the Opposition in Parliament. If Ontarians reject the message, the beneficiary will be Conservative Leader Jean Charest.

While the *Tory* leader has shown solid strength in Atlantic Canada and now runs ahead of the *Bloc* in Quebec ridings all the island of Montreal, his campaign has not taken off in Ontario. In an interview last week with *Maclean's*, Charest was confident that Ontario voters would reject Manning's message. "He's gone over the top and it will backfire on him," said the *Tory* leader. And he appealed directly for votes on the basis that he can defeat the *Bloc* as the official Opposition party in Parliament: "There is one question, who

can defeat the *Bloc* where they are?" Thus in the fundamental question Manning and Charest are asking voters to consider in the final weeks, given Manning's strength in the West and Charest's in Quebec and the Atlantic, the answer is likely to be found some June 3 in the hearts and minds of the voters of Ontario. Will it be accommodation or tough love?

Robert Lewis



Manning and Sheri Coxon: the subject of attack

Newsroom Notes:

Campaign wrap-up

In the week's cover story, for the final issue before the June 2 federal election, Ottawa Editor Anthony Wilson-Smith examines the *West* 8s of Campaign '97—from an anticipated Liberal majority government to a minority Parliament on the Italian model (page 16). In addition, the package offers a



Wilson-Smith, Sheri Coxon: debate

preview of key races that will decide the trends on election night, the fifth report on the undecided voters in five constituencies and the final of five regional reports—the battle for Ontario. As he has throughout the campaign, *National Post* Editor Paul Kopechne oversees the 13-page election section, assisted by Senior Writer Patricia Chisholm and Assistant Editor Danyla

Hawloschia. Wilson-Smith also was a panelist with broadcaster Pamela Wallin on the all-party debate hosted by Peter Kent on the Global TV network last Sunday.

Election results

In co-operation with the on-line service CANOE (www.canoe.ca), *Maclean's* will provide updated party standings and results in the 301 ridings starting at 10:30 p.m. EDT on June 2 (see cover, backcover). *Maclean's* will delay publication of the next issue until Wednesday, June 4, to offer complete election coverage.

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Parizeau: an amazingly apt portrayal of a loose cannon

The Parizeau affair

The May 29 "Unity bomber" cover so aptly portends the Quebec premier Jacques Parizeau who has lower common than he first found myself laughing much longer than secretly allows. It is all ironic, isn't it?

Erica Dennis
Ottawa, Ont.

It is true that we recognized Parizeau's continuing interference in our political affairs and told the French in no uncertain terms to get out and mind their own business.

C. F. Rossini,
Ottawa, Ont.

Lives of gay teens

Reading the article about homophobia in *REClass* action, "Education, May 199, I was struck once again by the predictable antediluvianism. The authors seem to go 13- or 14-year-old thinks he is gay; he comes out of the closet; he experiences hostility from his

low students; he finds special programs with sympathetic teachers to complete his education. I wonder how it is that a 13- or 14-year-old is so sexually well-informed to conclude that he is gay? Young people are still working through puberty at that age. I hope it is not indoctrination by educators or the vicious terms of mass media.

Ann Eric Karpman,
Langley, B.C.

"Class action" is very timely for British Columbia where there is so much negative publicity about gaps and lesbians, most notably the Surrey school board burning materials about homosexuality and three primary books that lecture gay parents. The more gay and lesbian issues can be brought into the open to demystify them, the more they will become a non-issue. Gaps and lesbians live in our families and are our neighbours. Why the persecution?

Brenda Taylor
West Creek, B.C.

Political bickering

Anthony Wayne-Smith says Canada is "a backhanded, double-edged nation" (*Parizeau was never to be trusted*). Backstage, May 29, I think he has been too long watching politics in my view, Canadians are civil and decent. It is the politicians' option— and dare to shove their views down our throats—that causes the suffering and division that Wayne-Smith observes, which is mainly seeing the politicians, not the people.

Gerrit Nelson,
Ottawa, B.C.

CBC's numbers

Your cover story "Knights of the news" (May 26) states erroneously that as a result of the invasion of commercials in *The National*, audience numbers have "plummeted" from one million to 844,000. It compares this number with the CTV network's audience of 1.4 million. Data from Nielsen Media Research indicates that *The National* at 10 p.m. attracted an average of 1.06 million viewers in the fall, prior to the introduction of advertisements, and 1.06 million

Paying Bre-X dues

Should "Bre-X" officers ultimately be found to be guilty of anything for everything for that matter, their punishment should fit the crime. ("The blame game," *Business*, May 156.) I propose 20 years hard labor in a gold mine. At six to nine cents a day.

John McHenry Sherman,
Watson Lake, Yukon

from January until April. During that time, the program's share of viewing remained stable at 13 per cent. A plateau? We don't think so. The article mistakenly compares audience for the hour-long *The National* and *The National Magazine* to that of CTV's half-hour news. The accepted comparison is between the two newscasts.

Bob Calvert,
Executive Director,
CBC Television News,
Current Affairs and Newsweek
Toronto

The flood and politics

I think the biggest challenge facing Canada is neither unity nor unemployment, but the enormous reality gap between our people and our leaders. Jean Chrétien practically gave the opposition the election here, during the flood, yet none of them capitalized on it ("Mapping up," *Canada*, May 29). All they had to do was show up and help out. Instead, they screwed up on revenue and did nothing. I have especially been bothered because so publicly minded that they have lost their ability to truly relate to the people they claim to represent. Meanwhile, you folks in the rest of Canada, including Quebec, have poured out your hearts as much as the Salvation Army doesn't have room to put all your donations. Despite our different cultures and different languages, we still share one heart. Our country will stay together. But we may have to fire our politicians to do it.

Kelli Sutton,
Winnipeg

The engineers are making plans to build new catch basins and concrete levees to protect Winnipeg and the surrounding towns from another inevitable flood. If technology is the answer, then any amount of money to save lives is worth it. But is it the answer? What were the real causes of the flood? We need to stop placing blame on the weather, culture or an act of God—we are the cause. The practice of monoculture, strip farming and tree harvesting, and the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides have all contributed to soils that will not absorb wa-

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Jeff Johnson,
New Lusk, Ont.

While impressed with the extensive and even thoughtful coverage of the flood, it was disappointing to note that the towns of Lethbridge, St. John-Baptiste and St. Agathe were mentioned in the east back of the Red River on your map ("As the Red River rises," *Canoe*, May 12).

Philippe Hubert,
Winnipeg

Vive la différence

A Ian Forberghian's comment about Alex McDougall being "handicapped" by being the second newscaster for WOP leaders—writers don't tell the difference? would mean Canada has had only two press ministers: all those men—who can tell the difference—and Kim Campbell ("A cast to stagger the boggled mind," May 18).

James Gaudet,
Saskatoon

Deductible proposal

I read with interest "Why not share the cost of health care?" by Wolfe D. Goodman (*The Road Ahead*, May 19). He proposes a deductible amount for medical insurance, confined so that it would be no way possible for the poor. This idea is exactly the same as that proposed by Denis Proulx in her column on April 10, 1995 ("A few simple ways to save medicine"). It is a very good idea. But why has there been no comment from leaders in Ottawa, now campaigning for election?

Emmanuel Leclerc,
Montreal

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The Road Ahead

Can anyone stand up to Bouchard?

National unity is the most important issue in this election. Fervent supporters on other issues are all predicated on the country staying together. If the prospect of breaking up what is arguably the best country in the world isn't enough to make it the most important issue, consider this: Canada borrows about \$30 million a day just to meet current expenses. Guess what the lenders want, in addition to interest on their money? They want security in "knowing" that they can get their principal back in full, more or less on demand.

In the face of a Chrétien, these investors would close the money taps and Canada would face an immediate cash crunch. Investors will not be interested in lending money to any level of government in Canada until stability is restored. And it only gets worse. Canadian governments owe some \$800 billion to domestic as well as foreign investors. Would a default be cash in Canada Savings Bonds surprise anyone? Holders of other financial instruments would follow suit in fear that Canada would lose its ability to pay. The only response to this "fact" on our dollar would be to raise interest rates to unbearable levels, sending our economy down the toilet.

The No side won the last referendum by the slimmest of margins. Its yes opponents were an upward roll after reelecting three-Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau to the cabinet and naming Lucien Bouchard to the front lines. Bouchard, the youngest premier, knows that a referendum cannot be won on the merits and benefits of unionism—they simply aren't there. Bouchard

is a brilliant orator, a master at expressing passion for his cause, and a genius at wooing and skirting the sensitive and hard issues in fear of emotion. He is a world-class orator capable of manipulating the hearts and souls of his prey. History is full of such leaders, who have successfully led their people down paths that history has later proven to be in error.

One can only contemplate with trepidation what might have happened if Bouchard had had another week or two to play his head game with the Quebec voters. In the next sovereignty campaign, Canadians will need a leader who can effectively show Quebecers that they are a part of Canada, that Canadians want and need them as much as they need us, that we do appreciate their culture and recognize its inherent value to Canada as well as to Quebec—and that Bouchard isn't the only leader in the sparsely named like "Canada is not a real country."

I doubt that any of the candidates can match Bouchard, a master manipulator. But we need to identify and then support the party leader having the strongest verbal communication skills and the ability to effectively spread his or her passion for this country. Someone respected by Canadians from coast to coast and in particular by French-Canadians, someone who truly understands the diversity of this nation. Does Jean Chrétien have these qualities? How about Prosser Manning? Or Alain McDonald? What about Jean Charest? I think one of these leaders does stand out above the rest, someone I believe can effectively deal with the ideas of Bouchard. Do you?

Do not think I am writing to anyone specific; this is a Canadian's opinion, and all reasonable persons should be able to agree or disagree with it.

Ed Brue,
Sims, Ont.

Maclean's Chief of Staff (2001) South Africa

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Backstage



Anthony Wilson-Smith

In search of the real Jean Charest

In the days immediately after the 1993 election, it was sometimes said that the Liberals were a party in search of a leader, while the Progressives Conservatives had a leader in search of a party. Jean Charest, unhappy and ineffective in opposition, had not yet proven his merit. By contrast, Jean Charest was the two-faced Tories' major asset. His charisma had become clear during his unsuccessful but impressive underdog campaign against Kim Campbell for the Tory leadership.

Then, despite the cross his party was in, Charest's best days seemed to be ahead. He was elected by the Quebec and indeed the Liberals, along with several law firms. The Tories' defeat was not his fault, and he was well-liked by politicians in all parties. His positions on many major issues remained unknown, but that was understandable: he had never been in a position to debate policy before.

Today, those circumstances are different. Depending on the way the vote splits the Tories could win, lose, tie or split. That 5 out of 100 will vote Tory decide whether their leader remains in federal politics, or decides to try something else. At age 33, Charest is the youngest and most exciting of the five party leaders. But to many people, he remains the biggest unknown. He looks "a brighter future," he says, and once—as if other leaders agree that. And he justifiably supports national unity—no small thing to find in a bright, relatively young francophone Quebecer. He harbors no intense grudge against Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard. In 1996, Bouchard, then a Tory, was Charest's mentor, and wanted him to accept the chairmanship of a committee studying the Meech Lake accord. When Bouchard belated the party, renowned federalism, and denounced the committee's findings, his former protégé was devastated.

What else drives Charest? Once, when people talked of "Red Tories"—a catchall phrase for those PCs who call themselves social liberals, but fiscal conservatives—Charest seemed to be one. From wearing an opening to the right of the Liberals, he is reform as an opponent of existing pro-control legislation, and avoid his party's program, with the exception of its stance on Quebec, matters that of Reform. He denounces Prime Minister Jean Chrétien for his "inflexible" approach to federalism—but Charest would, as prime minister, impose freer trade between provinces even if some of them screamed about it. His federalist preferences are firm, but he courts Quebec nationalists by opposing a Supreme Court challenge of the province's right to unilateral secession.

In his personal style, he is most reminiscent of Brian Mulroney, the political leader under whom he served his internship. Both men are expert at cultivating and keeping networks of supporters. Both

revel in the cut and thrust of competition, although Charest better hides his partisan instincts. And both seem to be a remarkable degree, on the Tories' wags for good reason: they are still actively similar.

Even their outward mannerisms are sometimes strikingly similar: both Mulroney and Charest have the rich, sonorous voices of radio personalities—and use that for careful effect. Mulroney, with his sophisticated business, sounds like the sort of PM host who introduces Barry Manilow tunes on overnight programs devoted to the lovebirds, while Charest has the more urgent, clipped tones of a morning newswoman trying for attention on between Top 40 hits.

Like Mulroney, Charest has mastered the politician's necessary art of seeming inflexible while actually saying nothing revealing.

When telling anecdotes, he lowers his voice, delivers his tale in a conspiratorial tone, and lifts his punch line with apparent spontaneous delight. Never mind that he has usually told the same story many times before. Charest's defining moment in the English-language television debate came when he was spontaneous as he was willing to pass on to his children a united Canada. The line has been a staple in his French-language speeches for years.

The comparisons of Mulroney and Charest are inevitable. Both are actually bilingual, of small-town Quebecers of Irish working-class heritage (the fact, because his anglophone mother attended to his baptismal certificate, Charest is actually listed as an "John James Charest"). Both came from tightly knit families, and each lost a parent relatively early in life (Mulroney's father died while he was in early 20s, Charest's mother while he was in his late teens).

Charest's all-giving father, "Red," a former professional hockey player and a man of quiet, rough-hewn dignity, was an affectionate but stern disciplinarian who told his children there are three important values in life: "Work, work and work."

In other ways, the two differ greatly. Charest is more comfortable with himself than Mulroney. In a happy result, he lacks Mulroney's dark, vindictive side. And while Mulroney lived in a shopworn, dilapidated house, Charest is far more glib and at ease in a fast-paced multimedia era. But there is a more crucial difference: Mulroney adopted free policies on such crucial issues as the Constitution, free trade, taxation and foreign policy. Charest, with his signature on detail and kindness for policies based more on pragmatism than principle, still appears to be making up his mind as he goes along. Torying like Mulroney, Charest has a "strong" streak with a leader whose attributes include being a charming bilingual Quebecer with double, mostly moderate, policies, and a heart-on-sleeve love for Canada. The problem for Charest at election time is that Canada actually has a prime minister just like that: even his initials are the same.

He was once
regarded as a
'Red Tory,' but
many of his
policies are now
similar to those of
Preston Manning

THE
25th
ANNIVERSARY

Opening Notes

Edited by BARBARA WICKENS

Triple-win Canadian at Cannes

During the recent Cannes Film Festival, Robert Lantos was driving on the French Riviera in a rented BMW convertible when he felt something hit his head. A bird had just relieved itself on the chairman and CEO of Toronto-based Alliance Communications Corp. Lantos took it as a lucky omen—one that could bode well for Alliance's *The Sweet Hereafter*, competing with 20 films at the 50th anniversary of the French festival. That was Lantos's 23rd year in Cannes, and he had vowed that nothing less than the Palme d'Or. The competition's top prize would surely win.

He had reason to be optimistic. Director Atom Egoyan's heartrending drama about the aftermath of a school-bus crash was the favorite to win. But the 10-member jury, which included Canadian novelist Michael Ondaatje, had a mind of its own—or, several, as it were. Interestingly divided, the jury split the Palme d'Or between two films from veteran directors—*The End*, by Japan's Shohei Imamura, and *The Taste of Cherry*, by Iran's



Egoyan with Toronto's own once from the city paid off

Abbas Kiarostami. *The Sweet Hereafter* won the runner-up Grand Prix, as well as the International Critics Prize and the Ecumenical Prize. Receiving the Grand Prix from John Travolta, Egoyan graciously made any disappointment and thanked Canada for his creative freedom. "It's a huge thing to be honored three times," he said later. "The Palme would have been too good to be true." Lantos, meanwhile, stressed that the Grand Prix is the highest honor ever won by a Canadian dramatic feature. The victory came paid off, but not quite as expected.

Lithe and lustful

Women should forget all that sex and romance manuals that suggest a warm relaxing bath, a massage or candlelight and wine are the best aphrodisiacs. According to clinical psychologist Cindy Maston of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, women would be further ahead spending a break 20 minutes on an exercise bicycle. In two studies of a total of 71 heterosexual women between the ages of 18 and 44, Maston used a device to measure the brain's signs of sexual arousal—including vaginal swelling, blood volume and color—right after exercise. She found that dramatically reducing the exercise increased sexual response among both women with low desire and those with normal sexual function. "The common practice," Maston observes, "is to get women to relax, tell them they're too anxious and they have performance anxiety and to get them to think of sex things." Instead, she suggests, "vigorous exercise can have a very significant effect" on getting in the mood.



On an exercise getting in the mood

Church conversions

The influx of middle-class North Americans from inner cities to the suburbs is not just a secular concern among downtown dwellers. The high cost of maintaining large old churches, most of which are concentrated in city centres, has resulted in many places of worship falling into disuse and disrepair. Deciding what to do with them is the subject of a two-day international conference in Quebec City next week. Along with workshops and lectures by church restoration project leaders from the United States and Britain, the conference will include a visit to five Quebec City edifices that are closed and in need of major renovations.

Deciding the future of such churches, many of which are historical monuments or urban landmarks, is an important challenge for society as a whole, according to event organizers. City governments should work with religious leaders to determine which churches should be maintained and which could be converted for community activities such as markets or indoor water playgrounds, says professor Ian Noyes, an architectural history professor at the University of Laval. "We can't keep all of our churches," adds Noyes, who estimates it would cost "a few billion dollars" to restore all of Quebec's 2,500 churches. "But, if we use our brains, we can protect as important part of our heritage."

Quebec City repairs: markets, playgrounds



BEST-SELLERS

- FICITION**
- 1 *Full on Your Eyes*, Ross Macdonald (D)
 - 2 *Swine Run*, Tim Lincecum (D)
 - 3 *Shut It Up*, Bruce Smith (D)
 - 4 *The Horse*, Lisa Gardner (D)
 - 5 *Money & Blood*, Thomas Haden Church (D)
 - 6 *A Scientific Romance*, David Wright (D)
 - 7 *The Museum of Dreams*, Margaret George (D)
 - 8 *The Nightwatcher*, Neil Gaiman (D)
 - 9 *Jeopardy!*, Jeffery Deaver (D)
 - 10 *Twelve Years*, John Grisham (D)
- NONFICTION**
- 1 *Whales at Sea*, Allen Gellman (D)
 - 2 *Beats, Beats, Beats*, David Port and David Johnson (D)
 - 3 *Simple Machines*, David Huxford (D)
 - 4 *Eight Weeks to a Better Body*, Andrew Weil (D)
 - 5 *Conversations with God*, Jack & Michael Tabor (D)
 - 6 *Too Hot to Handle*, John DeLorean (D)
 - 7 *Swing State*, David L. Swanson and Nelson M. Schwartz (D)
 - 8 *Angels in the Flesh*, Michael Crichton (D)
 - 9 *On the Edge of the Edge*, David L. Swanson (D)
 - 10 *Personal History*, Katherine Tegen (D)

(D) Fiction best-seller. Compiled by David Huxford

Those funny Canucks

With *Stand and Deliver* Canada's most famous teacher, Andrew Clark attempts to answer that much-asked question: What makes Canadians so funny? Part of the answer, according to Clark, is that Canadians are not funny, but that they are not Canadians. "As a nation we don't boast, we just."

After bankruptcy

Some Ottawa lawyers say that just as a person's name was cooked back in January, 1996, when he crumpled into a courthouse parking garage under the wheel of a top-of-the-line Mercedes-Benz, just as Justice Justice Chabouck arrived in his old Volvo. Both were there to listen to Pénz's lawyers plead for his discharge from his \$300-million bankruptcy in the summer of 1994. Pénz settled with the bankruptcy trustees in May, 1996, and won a discharge. But the judge, who had spent two years sifting through hundreds of documents, was not alone in looking at the Ottawa developer's business affairs. The RCMP's commercial crime division has now laid 49 fraud charges against Pénz, his wife, Diane Smith, and three business associates. The Moores allege that the group led at least \$6 million from Deloitte & Touche, the trustees in the bankruptcy Pénz privately sued Deloitte & Touche for \$37 million, claiming that the firm violated the confidential terms of the settlement. Pénz, his wife and associates are to appear in court on June 5.

Passages



FINED: Former Saskatchewan justice minister Ed Andrew, 53, a son of \$5,500, for fraud, in prison court, in prison judge Diane Morris also ordered him to make restitution. Andrew, who also served as Conservative finance minister in the late 1980s, admitted defrauding taxpayers of about \$4,500 by making a false claim in his legislative allowance paid before he quit politics in 1982. He lost his seat on the Calgary-based National Energy Board, because of the court case. The fraud charge arose from an estimate RCMP investigators into the financial dealings of former premier Ed Stelmach's Tory caucus in the late 1980s.

CHARGED: Michel Chénier, 28, son of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, with teaching the conditions of his release from custody. Chénier, convicted of sexual assault in 1992, was freed in February after serving two days of a three-year sentence. Arrested nine days later and charged with assaulting his girlfriend and her son, he was released on condition that he refrain from contacting them. Regina police arrested Chénier again last week after investigating an allegation he took the boy and his mother to a movie in May. Chénier, who was not jailed on the latest charges, is scheduled to return to court on July 7.

MARRIED: Actor-Vin superstar Sylvester Stallone, 50, and model Jennifer Flavin, 28, the mother of his eight-month-old daughter Sophia Rose, 4, in London. Hollywood actors Matthew Broderick, 35, and Sarah Jessica Parker, 32, at a New York City synagogue.

DIED: Prominent Edmonton business woman and philanthropist, Margaret Zoller, 83, in an Edmonton hospital.

DIED: Former Colombian president Virgilio Barco, 75, of heart failure, in a Bogotá hospital. Barco was indicted for alleged cocaine barons during his four-year term of office in the late 1980s.

CHARGED: American sportscaster Mary Albert, 53, with sodomy and assault after a 42-year-old woman complained that he abused her in an Arlington, Va. hotel room in February, in an Arlington court. Albert denied the charge.

Death at an earlier age

A male teenager in Russia has less chance of reaching age 60 than his Canadian peer because of a century ago. That is one of the grim conclusions that experts have drawn from a recent government report on Russian demographics. With 2.4 million deaths in 1995 and 2.2 million deaths—roughly the reverse of 1989 intake—post-communist Russia has a health profile resembling that of a Third World country. Citing the collapse of the state-run health system as a major factor in the decline, Russian analysts added that widespread drinking leaves adults particularly vulnerable to premature death. Other findings on Russia's 147 million citizens:

- Severely one per cent of adult males drink, consuming an average of a shot of vodka daily for a staggering total of 13.6 litres of pure alcohol a year. (Women down a cup, 1.5 litres yearly)
- From 1990 to 1995, there was a five-fold increase in the number of people seeking treatment for alcoholism.
- The odds of a Russian adult being murdered are 30 times greater than those faced by a Western European. His chances of dying by accidental poisoning are 20 times higher than an American's.
- Percentage of drinkers' blood alcohol for military service because of poor health: 35. Percentage reported in 1985 for similar reasons: five.

Gunning for Chrétien

Canada

COVER

The opposition parties araking a final run at bringing down the Liberals



Chrétien and his wife, Anne, in Lével, Que., Chrétien (far left), Manning (right) 'anything can happen'

BY ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

When the telephone call came from Jean Chrétien earlier this year, Raymond McBurn was surprised—and for a moment, uncharacteristically speechless. Last year, McBurn, a blunt 65-year-old businessman, retired from his Quebec City sign-manufacturing company. That, he thought, meant an end to "travelling all over the bloody place." But then, the leader of the Progressive Conservatives was pressing him to run for the party in the upcoming runoff riding of Portneuf on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. "I asked him how much campaign money was available," McBurn recalled last week. "And he said, 'None.'" Moreover, the riding, more than 85 per cent francophone, was easily won by the Bloc Québécois in 1993. But two things drove McBurn, a longtime Tory worker who grew up in the area. "The chance to help my leader succeed," said McBurn, "and to do the decent thing I might personally remove one separatist bed from the House of Commons. So I accepted." Last week, that dream seemed much closer to reality. Polls showed the



Bloc is how tall in Quebec—and the Tories gaining in popularity. Most significantly, a poll prepared by Montreal-based SCAN Inc. for the daily newspaper *Le Presse* showed the Tories winning outside the Montreal region. Overall, the Liberals had 34 per cent of the vote in Quebec, followed by the Bloc at 31 per cent and the Conservatives at 30 per cent. But in rural regions, the Tories had 57 per cent of the vote, the Liberals 31 per cent and the Bloc 29 per cent. Along with the growing strength of the Liberals, that transformed the race for the province's 75 seats from one the BQ was supposed to win easily into a three-way battle. After Chrétien's strong showing in the televised leaders' debates, the Conservatives suddenly found money and volunteers flooding in. In Portneuf, McBurn said, the difference is "enormous. We have [provocative] Liberals and even some people I thought were sovereigntists pitching in. Anything can happen."

That sums up the best hopes—or worst fears—of Canada's three major parties. Virtually all polls have indicated that the Liberals are cruising towards a majority win in the June Election (May 17 Elections Research Group Ltd. poll, for example, gave the Liberals the support of 40 per cent of declared voters, compared with 26 per cent for the Tories, 18 for Reform and nine per cent for the NDP). But behind the seemingly indisputable weight of national numbers, says Angus Reid, the head of the Angus Reid



polling agent, there is plenty of room for change—as the hearts and minds of all parties. “The reality,” said Reid, “is that a couple of shifts in national support could result in an enormous difference to the composition of the House of Commons.”

The different political outcomes—and the enormous long-term effects they could have on Canadian politics—raise many questions. “It is entirely possible,” said Lawrence LeDuc, a University of Toronto political science professor and expert in voting behavior, “that you could have five officially recognized parties in the House of Commons for the first time in history.” Currently, the Tories hold two seats and the NDP ones—not enough for official party status, which requires 12. On the other hand, acknowledged LeDuc, “It is just as possible that the Liberal majority could be so tight that they defeat everyone.”

The key questions all begin the same way: what if? What if, for example, the Liberals lose the most seats, but the Tories and Reform collectively outnumber them? Could the two backing parties of Canada really stand to form a coalition government? What if the Tories allied with the Liberals? Or what if the Liberals left just shy of forming a majority government—and needed support from the NDP? Could New Democrats then oblige the Liberals to implement some of their comparatively free-spending policies? And for those who think all that sounds so stretched, consider this: who would have thought, prior to the 1993 elections, that the BQ would end up as the second largest party in Parliament?

Most parties publicly answer such questions by saying they refuse to contemplate them—because each expects their party to win. “The chances of a minority government are real,” Charney told *Maclean's* last week. “Beyond that, my only objective is to form a government.” And Cliff Friesen, Reform's national campaign chairman, said, “The question is how far the Liberals are going to bumble. I think we will finish a majority government.”

Perhaps. But most experts agree that three other scenarios are far more likely. Below, *Maclean's* examines each of them, and how they would likely affect the future business of governing the nation.

1. A Liberal majority government. This means the most likely outcome, according to the polls. The most important question, then, is who will form the official Opposition? Privately, the Liberals are divided in their preferences: in the long term, say one senior staffer, “we would prefer Reform because it would delay the likelihood of a merger between them and the Tories.” But, says an influential Liberal insider, in the short term, “a Tory Opposition would be better for the country.” The Liberals fear that with a Quebec reformist likely within the next two years, a Reform Opposition would dominate and discourage with an anti-Reform message that would influence people in that province, and drive them towards sovereignty.

Manitoba has been taking an increasingly hard stance towards Reform, arguing that only a leader from outside the province can be tough enough with separatists. Within Quebec, says politician Jean Marc Lévesque, “the perception of most francophones is that Man is reflecting the real attitude of most English Canadians.” And, said BQ MP Suzanne Tremblay, “the presence of Mr. Manning as Opposition leader can only help the sovereignty cause.” Another possibility is that the Bloc could still return as the official Opposition. That could result from a collapse of the Tory campaign in Quebec, with the Conservatives ending up behind the BQ. Reform and perhaps the NDP agree as its number of seats. In that case, the pressure on the Tories to merge with Reform—particularly if that could displace the Bloc in Opposition—would be enormous.

Stuppner (left) with Charney (right) at the opposition

In that event, Charney would almost certainly quit federal politics, friends say. But he would not be the only leader likely to reconsider his future. If Reform's total drop away below the 38 seats it won in 1993, Manning will face pressure to leave. And the BQ's Gilles Duceppe, after his short, controversial Alberta tenure, already appears a one-click leader. Only the NDP's Alex McEwen seems secure under almost any circumstances.

2. A soft Liberal minority government. In this scenario, Liberal support in the new 361-seat House of Commons falls to about 135 seats, leaving the party 28 seats shy of a majority. For this to happen, the Tories must make large gains, mostly at the expense of the Liberals, while the Bloc holds much of its support in Quebec and Reform remains strong in the West. And because Reform and the Liberals face the key in the equation, they could either fall by rule out the notion of working with each other; the Tories become the key in the equation. They could either fall with Reform in a right-wing coalition or group up the Liberals.

The similarity of their platforms would point to the Tories joining with Reform. Both parties favor steep tax cuts, a sharp reduction in the size of government, and each has taken turns bemoaning the Liberals. But coalition is almost certainly not in the cards—largely because many Reformers and Tories despise each other. The most obvious antipathy comes from the Tory side. Says one Charney adviser: “There is bad blood with Reform. Charney is offended by Manning and worried about what he is trying to do to the country.” For his part, Charney says only “Reform has been done in this campaign to make us any closer in terms of our view of the future of the country.”

Reform officials insist they could work with the Tories—on specific terms. “Conservative party members and Reform party members could be very, very compatible,” says national campaign chairman Cliff Friesen. “Reform would not be looking for a merger. It would not be a discussion between equals, but as ‘My perception is closer to a takeover.’ One area where Reformers and Tories have worked effectively side by side is at the provincial level in Ontario. Largely as a result, Ontario Premier Mike Harris, unlike his Tory counterparts Gary Filmon in Manitoba and Ralph Klein in Alberta, has not endorsed Charney's party.”

The federal Tories, then, would probably throw their support behind the Liberals, at least until a Quebec referendum. In turn, the Tories would push for implementation of several key parts of their own platform, such as an immediate income tax cut. In the wake of such a disappointing election result, Charney—who said last week

AN ELECTION NIGHT GUIDE TO KEY RACES

On June 2, the results in just 15 of the 302 federal ridings could provide a snapshot of the overall trend. Managing Editor Geoffrey Stevens, a veteran election observer, previews some key races

ATLANTIC CANADA (23 seats)

If Jean Charney's Conservatives lose to become the Opposition, they will have to take approximately 20 seats in each of the Atlantic region, Quebec and Ontario. Although Newfoundland is seldom a hotbed of any kind, it will be the only region to turn its back on Prime Trudeau in 1993; this time will be different. Two Newfoundland ridings, plus one each in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, will tell the tale at the Liberal-Tory battle.

Quebec (20 seats)

As in 1993, the province will be a battle between the Liberals and the Bloc Québécois. This time, the Liberals go into election day with the upper hand and the Tories have a chance to captain in vote splits. Two ridings may tell the tale.

Quebec/Montreal (13 seats)

This Bloc held Eastern Townships seat is a lightning ground for all three parties. If, as is possible, the Bloc runs tight, it will be a long summer for the voters' grins.

Quebec/Quebec City (10 seats)

On the face of it, the seat is a toss-up between the Bloc, which holds it, and the Liberals. But the Tories are also a factor because former federal cabinet minister Jean Corbin is all but certain to win the seat.

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ONTARIO (103 seats)

If the Liberals, who won 98 of the province's 99 seats in 1993, are losing their grip in Ontario, it will show up first in the London area. Robert's claim of an impending breakthrough in Ontario also will be tested in a pair of other ridings.

London West

The city riding has gone back and forth between the Conservatives and Liberals. The Grits will retain it only if the Tories and Reform split the right-wing vote again, as they did in 1993.

Edmonton Centre

Edmonton's seat, the only one where the Reform party presents the kind of battle the Conservatives must win to make a recovery in Ontario.

Edmonton West

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Edmonton West

Edmonton's seat, the only one where the Reform party presents the kind of battle the Conservatives must win to make a recovery in Ontario.

voters may demonstrate next week that the Sure Thing is an increasingly rare thing in Canadian politics. Unusually—even though it will result in collective loathing—given the odds—this election winner will largely be decided by the results in Central Canada. The reasoning behind that, according to Liberal and Tory strategists and outside analysts, works in the following fashion:

The Liberals, who won 51 of Atlantic Canada's 33 seats in 1993, will not win as many this time. A more likely total is between 35 and 21 seats, with the NDP contending in two seats, and the Tories winning the rest. In Quebec, the Liberals will win a minimum of 20 seats, and a maximum of 30. The Bloc and Tories will battle for the rest. Until last weekend, the Bloc, despite their gaffe-filled campaign, were still expected to take at least 40 seats—but if present trends hold, they will sit much closer to that. In Ontario, the Liberals will win a minimum of 80 of the province's 103 seats. The Liberals say those three scenarios are their worst case scenario—and still leave them with 134 seats. That would mean they would need to win only 25 of the remaining 91 seats in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and the territories to form a majority—and they won 39 last time.

A final possibility, of course, is that the Liberals will lose outright. There have been large upsets before. In 1988, the Liberals under John Turner lost a majority government when Brian Mulroney's Tories claimed 211 seats—and, of course, there was the 1992 Tory meltdown from government to just two seats. But those events were provoked by a sustained drop in popularity—which the Liberals have not suffered from. This time, a more likely outcome is another assembled, ragged-out five-party House of Commons. That has happened before, too—and, on at least one occasion, led to the observation in Mulroney's that, "I don't remember a time when Parliament stood as low in public estimation as it does now." The year was 1947, and the writer was Mulroney's Editor *Arthur Ivins*, one of the most misquoted journalists of the period. The Liberals, in the wake of the 1945 election, held a majority (as Parliament that included Quebec's Bloc Populaire Canadien, a western-based right-wing party, Social Credit, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the precursor of the NDP, and the Tories. But Ivins found some solace in those divisions, writing that they proved, at least, that democracy was thriving. And, he said, "We prefer a loose, chaotic, messy government that lets us do as we please, to a tight, smooth, competent one that leaves what is good for us." As election day approaches a half-century later, Canadians remain united in their skepticism, and divided by their choices.



Looking for work, economic remedies

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

Kim Campbell should be feeling slightly vindicated. During her ill-fated 1980 election campaign, the three-prize minister, now Canada's nominal premier in Los Angeles, made her infamous comment that Canadians should expect unacceptably high levels of unemployment until the turn of the century. What a faux pas, declared her critics, denouncing the doomed Tory leader for surrendering in the battle against unemployment, which then stood at 11.3 per cent, while the Liberals promised job creation. Now, almost four years later, unemployment persists at 9.6 per cent—and politicians are promising a bright future of jobs and a better economy as another election campaign grinds on.

Too late, a balanced budget, more government spending—and any of the strategies on parade resolve the problem of an economy that shows strong growth but has persistently left upwards of 1.5 million jobless? For those without personal agendas to promote, the simple—and painful—answer is no. Experts say the problem of unemployment affecting Canada's economy is deeply rooted in the policies of a welfare state—and beyond the largely cosmetic remedies offered in the election campaign.

The core problem, says Simon Fraser University business professor John Richards, is an overly rigid labor market that has created institutionalized unemployment. Referring to himself as a "chained social democrat," Richards points out that a growing proportion of money is going to people in the bottom 25-per-cent income bracket. The result: individuals have become dependent on the state, lacking the skills to adapt to a changing work environment. "This cannot go on," Richards says. "We have to make the labor market more flexible. If we are going to get money into welfare, it must go into training for jobs—it can't be in the form of cash."

Experts say that encouraging workers to be more mobile, rather than passively supporting people in areas of chronically high joblessness, would increase employment levels. Brian Crowley, president of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies in Halifax, says Canadians need only look to nations with low rates of unemployment to find answers. "The United States, the United Kingdom and New Zealand show that it's possible to have 1990s levels of unemployment," says Crowley. (Unemployment in the United States stands at five per cent, and 5.9 per cent in Britain.) Those countries have less restrictive labor laws—and encourage "workforce mobility." The fact is we've chosen policies that give us the unemployment we have," Crowley says. "Are people willing to challenge the welfare state policies at the heart of unemployment? The answer is no."

In the short term, there is reason for optimism. Bill Robson, senior policy analyst at the C.D. Howe Institute, says that in consumer spending and housing starts point to a period of job growth. "But in the long term," he adds, "if you want stable, low unemployment you need flexibility in the labor market—and that has a hard edge to it." Too hard for many even to contemplate—and electoral disaster for those who publicly voice such sentiments.

THE PEOPLE'S DEBATE

PRESENTED ON CANWEST GLOBAL



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SPOTLIGHT:

By Mary Jagan

Balancing acts

THE POLICY: With the exception of the separate Basque Quebecers, the majorities have policies that would alter the balance of responsibilities between Ottawa and the provinces. The Liberals would recognize Quebec as a distinct society—and allow requests to veto constitutional changes that affect them. The Tories would concentrate on the division of powers. And their solutions could spark considerable turmoil. The Conservatives would transfer federal tax points to the provinces, allowing them to raise their

revenue. Alberta would require unanimous provincial consent—which is highly unlikely. In other case, the debates would be endless—and acrimonious.

Although they would also recognize Quebec as a distinct society, the Tories would concentrate on the division of powers. And their solutions could spark considerable turmoil. The Conservatives would transfer federal tax points to the provinces, allowing them to raise their



St-Jean-Baptiste Day: constitutional change will not be painless

THE REALITY: The Liberals are perhaps the most cautious in their proposals—so that their pledges may be unrealistic. To constitutionally recognize Quebec as a distinct society would require the approval of provinces with at least 50 per cent of the population—but Quebec and Ontario and British Columbia oppose the concept. Worse, the Liberals' plans to change the

even funds for health and postsecondary education. In return, Ottawa and the provincial governments would forge a so-called Canadian covenant to set national standards. But it would be difficult to get such agreement—and even more difficult to enforce it. The Tories would also establish a nonprovincial trade commission, invoking Ottawa's powers over trade and commerce to break down provincial trade barriers. But many trade barriers—such as the conditions that govern the licensing

"In any campaign, there will be different messages. An angry message, for example, attracts an angry voter."

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein, making a choice earlier than at Rideau Hall while announcing Jean Charest

of postsecondary—are areas of exclusive provincial jurisdiction. The trade commission must could exacerbate tensions.

Reform's plan to leave social programs to the provinces would almost certainly mean that Ottawa would no longer oversee the Canada Health Act, which bans user fees and extra billing. That controversy would pale beside Reform's plan to grant powers over language and culture to the provinces. That would likely require individual consti-

tutional amendments with each province. Quebec, for one, would assume those powers whole. Do two anglophone. Although each province is already treated differently in the Constitution, the result could be a patchwork of varying powers across the nation. And there could be an outcry from its north-language communities, hostile for their rights.

The NDP would raise federal cash transfers to at least \$15 billion from \$12.5 billion. In return, it would impose national standards as provincial welfare programs, demand low tuition fees, and strictly enforce the Canada Health Act. If provinces wanted funds, they would be forced to comply with rules that would massively intrude on their powers over social programs. It is unlikely that they would easily accept this return to 1980s-style federalism.

The worst that would accompany each party's platform is not reasons to oppose change. The federalism clearly requires adjustment. But as party in turn, can pretend that these changes will be painless and pleasing for all.

is Margery LeBlanc, perhaps Mulroney's fiercest remaining defender in Ottawa, who served as his deputy chief of staff before also going on to the Senate.

The 1993 election, of course, left the party in ruins—with only two MPs in the House of Commons and senators like Noble, Tsiachuk and Lefebvre as the main Tory standbys in Parliament Hill. So the Tories had to call out all available hands, including common-law children. David Mulroney—who acted as a senior adviser during the 1983 campaign. There have been some new faces, most notably Alister Campbell and Leslie Nielsen, who write the party's "Let the babies begin" platform and were part of Ontario Premier Mike Harris's campaign team—all through the emergence of the Clark scenario appears to be behind reports of growing tensions with Noble. Still, declared his senior campaign adviser, "We say all Charest people now." Until June 2, anyway.

"Preston Manning, who goes around the country like a political arsonist, seems determined to light fires and then present himself as being the fireman."

Progressive Conservative leader Jean Charest

"I think it's absolutely clear that where Preston Manning's policies would lead us is straight into a civil war."

NDP leader Alexa McDonough

"These leaders deflect attention from their absence of a plan by directing attacks at all those who question their strategy."

Reform leader Preston Manning

Hamburgers and the Elections Act

Elections Canada is not alone around the law. The new law is designed to broadcast, publish or disseminate the results of an opinion survey within three days before the polls close. That means they can't be used to survey by scientific pollsters like Angus Reid and Environics. But now the Elections Act is being more broadly

interpreted to include informal burger polls by restaurants like Haageny Jack's in Dartmouth, N.S. The news was enough to give over Jack Halpern indignation. "I can't see how they can claim it is scientific," Halpern says. "We're just having a bit of fun."

Elections Canada spokesman John Enright says the federal agency is determined to investigate written complaints, although "we won't have people on every street corner." But it has also set its face toward the Internet. For example, operators of the Yahoo! Canada Web site—which provides electronic links to The Globe and Mail News Wire and Maclean's—have been told they must ensure that no one can access even previously published articles containing poll results. Says Warren Campbell, Yahoo! Canada's executive producer: "Canadian law has any right to see their history during the blackout period."



Healey, Charest, Campbell, gets laugh on polls

Disunity in the election studio

Disunity Prime Minister Sheila Copps and Reform leader Preston Manning have often hurled verbal barbs at one another across the floor of the House of Commons. During The People's Debate, a televised election forum sponsored by Global TV and Maclean's and aired on May 25, things were no different when the topic turned to national unity. Manning wanted to shift some powers from Ottawa to the provinces in the hope of appeasing Quebec. But he also adapted a tough approach.

"The separation need to be sold some hard truths, but no one will tell them but us," Manning told the forum. Manning's position was hardly new. At times he was shouted down not only by Copps but also by Jack Layton, who is running in Toronto for the NDP; and by Ottawa lawyer Peter Austin, a Tory candidate in the nation's capital. Copps said that his approach would lead the country "down the path of war." While Manning countered that Prime Minister Jean Charest had almost lost the country in the last referendum, Copps defended her po-

ly's position, which calls for recognition of Quebec as a distinct society. "The only person who is rejecting distinct society out of hand is Preston Manning," said Copps. "He is spreading separatist separatist country." Layton, who was born in Quebec, also claimed that Manning was "doing a wedge between Canadians." Austin charged that Manning had failed to recognize that many self-sufficient were shifting away from the Bloc Quebecois. "Whether than you working to bring the country together?" he said, "you are trying to divide it."



HIGHLIGHTS

REFORM UNDER FIRE

A controversial anti-Quebec TV advertisement by the Reform party drew a flurry of harsh criticism. The ad suggests Canadians need a prime minister from outside Quebec and calls for "a vote for all Canadians, not just Quebec politicians." Prime Minister Jean Charest said Reform was being extreme while Tory leader Jean Charest described it as a new law, and NDP leader Alexa McDonough called the ad ugly and destructive. But Reform leader Preston Manning defended the advertisement. "The separatists are doing damage by what they say, not the old-line federalists do damage by what they do not do," he said.

BILLBOARD FLAP

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in British Columbia named politicians "baddies" by unveiling a series of billboards denouncing them. The campaign targets Liberal MPs who voted against a private member's bill that would have repealed the so-called hard-hat laws, which permits some murderers to apply for early parole. Minister of Transportation David Anderson, one of the targets, said he was "outaged."

VOTING BEHIND BARS

Voting by about 13,000 federal inmates began last week, just as Ottawa tried to block them from doing so. Justice Minister Allan Rock said the government is asking the Supreme Court of Canada to stay a Federal Court of Appeal ruling that gave prisoners under federal sentence the right to vote, and to rule that last week's prisoners' votes not be counted in the next election.

HOW RICH IS RICH?

NDP leader Alexa McDonough faced a barrage of difficult questions in Halifax as she publicly debated her opponents were particularly tough on her stand on taxing the rich. "Who are the big guys and who are the little guys?" Tory candidate Tony Danesh asked. Liberal incumbent Mary Clancy demanded "how much do you make to be rich?" McDonough's answer, someone earning over \$100,000 a year "should pay a higher percentage of taxes than someone earning \$20,000."

CALLING ALL HANDS

Many of Jean Charest's chief advisers trace their political roots back to the Conservatives' "Red Tory" days under Joe Clark's leadership. Chief strategist, John Wilkie and prominent adviser Nancy Jamieson, for instance, both cut their teeth in Ottawa on Clark's staff. Calgary consultant Jack Odeh was his communications expert. Campaign co-chairman Senator David Tsiachuk also campaigned his links to the federal party with Clark was leader. A successful bid by the Charest campaign to put the Brian Mulroney years behind them? The Tories say no—but that the former prime minister's name has suddenly pleased Charest's lips on the campaign trail. The party's Quebec campaign chairman, after all, is Pierre Claude Nolin, who was a special assistant to Mulroney before he co-opped his own run to the Senate in 1993. And a prominent figure in the Tory war room



LeBlanc: 1993 will test the Conservatives at their

The New Realism

Most voters say unemployment is beyond Ottawa's control

BY PATRICIA CHISHOLM

Predicting the passions of voters is clearly an exact science. Before the election coil, many political observers were certain that the one topic we'd be about jobs and the economy. But Maclean's weekly survey of 10 undecided voters in each of five ridings has found that unemployment—a national obsession in the early 1980s—appears to have subsided into a regional issue. In Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto, a surprising number of panelists said that governments have limited power to create jobs—too many other forces are at work, they concluded, such as global economic shifts. But in Montreal and, especially Halifax, concern about work still runs high. In those cities, many panelists worried about the poor prospects for youth and the local effects of a persistently high unemployment rate. Equally surprising, national unity appears to be one of the very few issues that generates heat in all regions. Several panelists volunteered their views on this topic, and suggested that the parties' positions could influence their final decision. While many remain undecided, even as late as last week, almost all are predicting another Liberal majority, although with reduced numbers. The last question, they say, is who will form the Opposition. Many are looking for Jean Charest's Tories, but they are reluctant to write off Francis Manning's Reformers, especially in the West. Except in Quebec, almost no one expects that the Bloc Québécois will retain its position as the official Opposition.

HALIFAX Even though it is a relatively prosperous urban riding, most panelists were unconvinced about unemployment. It remains an issue of the election, as important as it may be, but not the one that will decide it. That may be why several have decided to cast their vote for NDP Leader Alex McEwen, whose party has the most aggressive job-creation platform. Employment councillor **Kim Vance**, 28, says she knows too many young adults suffering from depression because they are out of work. "The Liberals made a lot of promises about jobs and I haven't seen that come true," she says. "Maybe the NDP won't do a better job, but I don't think I'd do any worse—or that their heart is in the right place." **Shane MacKinnon**, a program director at a local radio station, remains undecided, but he is certain about which issue is of overriding importance—also jobs. "It should be a top priority on each candidate's list," he says. "The Tories are the only party who will, but they won't do it." He believes the Liberals will win, but retains his caution—and that the Tories will pick up some of the protest vote in Atlantic Canada.

According to commentator **Stephen Kinler**, dean of journalism at **St. Mary's College**, the unease over job security in Atlantic Canada is so pervasive that it affects even *unemployed* Halifax, where the unemployment rate is lower than the national average. So far,



■ The Newfoundland and fishery regions: jobs are a regional issue again

McDonough has enjoyed strong support in the riding—NDP signs are sprouting in neighborhoods where they were virtually unseen in the past—but Liberal incumbent Mary Clancy has recently launched a strong comeback. "The last week will be crucial because the attack will intensify," Kinler says of the last race. "The socialist bubble" staff is going to come out—it's an indication of the Liberals' panic.

BROSSARD/LA PRAIRIE Most panel members in the Manicouagan riding, which elected a Bloc MP in the last election, seem so close to reaching a decision. While a few are leaning towards the Liberals, others seem more deeply uncertain about which party to support. "I'm all mixed up," admits secretary **Magdalene Ennals**, 31. "On the national unity issue, one's black, one's white, and another one's grey," she says. "I do have concrete proof that they will create jobs, that they will stop certain health care, that they will help low-income people." **Pauline Giddings**, a unit co-ordinator at the Montreal General Hospital, is also looking for clear policies, especially on unemployment. "I

feel very discouraged for a lot of young people," she says. "I think that is a major issue." The Liberals will win, she predicts, but which party will form the Opposition is "the million-dollar question."

Despite a very gradual improvement in unemployment in Quebec, many people remain discontented, notes national affairs reporter **Jan Donald Lebel**, a Montreal panel supervisor. Yet they are not sure who to blame, he adds. "Among francophones, there is strong support for government intervention in the economy," he notes. "People also want public services to be maintained as much as possible." In fact, massive cuts to the provincial payroll by the Parti Québécois government have infuriated local leaders, who were accusing the Bloc's biggest supporters of the intervention. As a result, Lebel feels, many in the labor movement are not doing the campaigning and fund-raising that helped elect many Bloc MPs in 1985. "I believe the Liberals will win in Brossard," Lebel predicts, "because of lower turnout among francophones who supported the Bloc last time."

ST. PAUL'S

While several of the panelists in the affluent midtown Toronto riding remain undecided, others are beginning to make choices. School teacher **Paula MacKinnon**, 34, is leaning toward a decision to vote NDP—but not necessarily because of the party's aggressive stance on job creation. "In some extent, unemployment is beyond the control of any particular party," she says, "and has so much to do with cycles and trends." She is looking, she says, for action on social programs and training that takes account of a changing workplace. She picks the Liberals to form the next government and the Conservatives to be the Opposition, and when it comes to politicians, is opting for it all. "I don't like Jean Charest," she says, "but there's still too much in the Tory platform I'm uncomfortable with." Like many panelists outside Quebec and Ontario, Ackrutt says governments do not have the power to create good jobs. Reform is most likely to form the Opposition, he predicts, partly because the Tories lack a strong regional base. "Their support is diffuse," he says. "It's the dilemma of being a national party."

Commentator **Robert Rothwell**, professor of history at the University of Toronto, notes that voters seem to be better informed about the causes of unemployment. "We've had this level of unemployment for so long, or close to it, since 1981, and nothing seems to change it," he says. "The last time that happened was the Great Depression and political patterns were pretty stable then—people sort of accepted it and carried on. So it may indicate we've come to a plateau."

CALGARY WEST

While panelists at the middle-class riding, which voted Tory in 1980, have still shown no strong preference, they are almost all agreed that governments are not the primary

cause of job creation. Laboratory technician **Burham Cooper**, 43, has narrowed it down to the Liberals or Tories. "The writing is here about national unity," he says. And even though the shortcomings of the Tories could be laid off at any time, the same job security is not a compelling election issue for him. "I think I could find another job relatively quickly," says Agronomist **Graig McAndrew**, on the other hand, is definitely leaning towards the Tories. "They have a better platform and I am angry at all the other parties," says McAndrew, whose 46. He also holds views on unemployment that appear to be increasingly widespread. "Governments can't create jobs," he says. "The classic example is the Maritimes, where there is no fish left. You have to find some other sustainable but can provide jobs. Jobs are so related to the global economy, anyway."

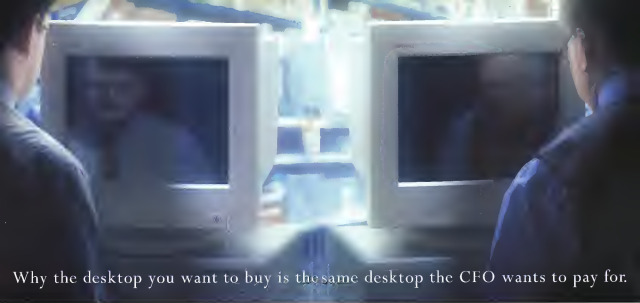
According to commentator **Keith Archer**, professor of political science at the University of Calgary, the idea of a secure job has become an obsession in Calgary, ever since the series of decisions that began with the National Energy Program. On the other hand, Calgarians also believe they have options, he says, and compare their circumstances favorably with regions like Newfoundland, where the unemployed often have no idea how to turn and despite the growing concern over unity. Archer says it is unlikely that many people will change their vote solely because this issue is gaining more attention. "People have a pretty good sense of where the parties stand on this," he says.

PONT MOODY/COQUITUM

The Vancouver area riding has been hit by the NDP. Tories and Reformers in the urban areas since 1979, and perhaps not surprisingly, panelists are still expressing a wide range of opinion. Most, however, agree that governments have only limited powers to directly affect employment. Accountant **Hill LaPointe**, 46, says he is leaning towards Reform, mostly because of their policies on national unity. "What I need to change my mind is a straightforward answer from Charest on the unity issue," he says. "As far as the three major parties on economic issues," he adds, "they are really the same. They are all in a hurry and slow." But freedom in decision officer **Geoff Seale**, 35, says he will probably vote Liberal, mostly for lack of an alternative. "I am not sure any of the parties can solve the problem [of unemployment]," he says. "They seem to be creating programs for young people, but not for people like me. None of the parties can solve this problem because they have no real idea."

The regional differences in attitudes to unemployment continue in wide swatches in conservative **John Harkin**, professor of business at **Simon Fraser University** and a former NDP MLA in Saskatchewan. "I think there is quite a dramatic break in opinion at the Ottawa River," he says. Whether in Ralph Klein's Alberta or Roy Romanow's Saskatchewan, Canadians are accepting a new view of unemployment, he says. That does not necessarily mean the embrace of a neoconservative corporate agenda, he says, and concerns about social programs does not have to be abandoned. "We live in the context of having to balance the budget," he says. In Eastern Canada, there is still the sense that government has the responsibility for jobs, he says, despite the recent efforts of some Maritime premiers to reduce dependence on social welfare. □

The Maclean's panel members are compiled with the participation of experts and students at five universities. In Halifax, **Stephen Kinler**, dean of journalism at **St. Mary's College**, is assisted by **Erin Macleod** and **James Kishin**. In London, **Keith Archer**, director of journalism at **Concordia University**, and national affairs journalist **Jan Lebel** are interviewed. **Ann-Françoise Digne** and **Daniel Gosselin** at **Montréal** University of Toronto history professor **Robert Rothwell** is assisted by **Kathleen Ackrutt** and **Ann Fitzpatrick**. At the University of Calgary, political science professor **Keith Archer** is covering the work of **Geoff Seale** and **Mike Kemp**. At **Simon Fraser University** in **Burnaby**, B.C., **Michael Harkin**, professor of business, is assisted by **Russell LaPointe** and **Colleen Whitwell**.



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COMPAQ

Canada

The Island's new link

Confederation Bridge still inflames passions

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

It was a secret that former Prince Edward Island premier Joe Ghiz kept even from his own wife and children. In January, 1988, Ghiz asked Islanders to finally resolve through a plebiscite the century-old debate over whether to build a physical link between the province and mainland Canada. But during the heated campaign, and even after 60 per cent of Islanders voted in favour of the so-called fixed link, Ghiz declined to reveal where he stood on the matter. The premier also kept his counsel at home, where his wife, Rose Ellen, who opposed the fixed link, often engaged in lively, supportive debates with their teenage son, Robert, who strongly supported the bridge. It was only after Ghiz died of cancer at the age of 51 last November that the family learned Ghiz had recently confided to a local political commentator that he voted "No in the plebiscite. I always suspected that," Rose Ellen told Maclean's. "But I never put him on the spot. I thought that if he wanted to keep that to himself, he had the right."

Beyond maintaining the family peace, Ghiz was probably keen to keep his opinions to himself. No other issue has so dominated—or so divided—public discourse in Canada's smallest province as the fixed link. Even now with the \$1-billion, 13-km-long Confederation Bridge set to open on June 1, decade rages on in many quarters over whether the massive concrete span across Northumberland Strait

SPECIAL REPORT

represents the route to a more prosperous future—or a road to social ruin.

To detractors, the move to build a bridge between P.E.I. and mainland Canada, N.B.—and to end the year-round ferry service that has placed those often-isolated islands since 1917—represents a potential threat to the environment, a step to business interests at the expense of what many like to call "the island way of life." They fear that if the fixed link brings the load of tourist traffic, its so-called "20 per cent increase" over the 770,000 visitors who already arrive each summer—it could end up spoiling the small, unspoiled island life that has attracted many of those tourists in the first place.

To its supporters, the bridge is simply a matter of cost-effective efficiency, promising an end to ferry lawsuits that during the summer months often last for several hours. As well, they should attract new business and jobs to the island—no matter in a province where the unemployment rate reaches as high as 18 per cent. Proponents also talk grandly about the role of Confederation as playing in building one of the world's longest bridges, a structure many consider an engineering marvel (see page 32). And they scoff at suggestions that it will diminish the region's living on an island. "It can still have my island lifestyle," says Gerry Goffard, president of the province's tourism industry association. "If I let a bridge interfere with that, I've really got a problem."

A common thread in all this is that few of the island's 135,000 people are happy when it comes to the fixed link. "It makes for a very lively discussion," acknowledges Paul Gosselin, president of Calgary-based Straight Crossing Inc., part of a consortium that will build the Confederation Bridge and will own the structure for the next 35 years. During the early 1990s, Gosselin spent many an evening talking across the island being anxiously cleared and jostled for the "arbitrage project." Now, as the fixed link project gains momentum—with a three-day \$1.4-million bridgefest, complete with seminars, fireworks and a competitive pig-killing contest—Islanders offer a mixed reaction. "I think," he says, "like anything else, it's a bit of a mixed bag for a little while yet."

So why should the next century be any different than the last? Every Islander agreed to join Confederation in 1873 only after signing a constitutional guarantee that Ottawa would provide "adequate and sufficient" passenger service between the island and mainland. But the guarantees were often ignored to port during winter storms or when trucks on made Northumberland Strait difficult to navigate. At such times, Islanders had to make do with mail—large vessels with metal runners that were towed across the strait, then hauled over ice floes by men in leather harnesses. Islanders paid \$2 for the crossing, or \$1.50 if they agreed to get off the boat when the boat hit ice.

The advent of steamshiping forced year-round service finally in 1917. Even so, many Islanders kept pressing Ottawa for an

alternative. In 1955, Lester Pearson's Liberal government agreed to build a combined \$149-million causeway bridge and tunnel. But the project was later abandoned due to escalating costs. It was left to Brian Mulroney's Conservative government—which in the 1980s seemed determined to deliver a megaproject to every region of the country—to make the fixed link a reality.

The federal call for submissions on the bridge project in 1987 spawned into action two opposing lobby groups. The anti-link Islanders of the Island was made up mostly of fishermen, environmentalists and academics. The pro-link Islanders For A Better Tomorrow drew support from business, tourism and labor groups. The two sides tore into each other at a series of public meetings during the plebiscite campaign. Some opponents expressed fear that the bridge would make it easier for everything from killer bees to prostitutes to enter the province. Some bridge supporters stopped to labeling their bay—a few of whom were American-born—as people "from away" who could never be true Islanders.

After the vote was won, the Friends of the Island vessel's last battle against the bridge. As late as March, 1993, the Federal Court of Canada ruled in their favor, stating that an earlier environmental review of the project—including its potential effects on the \$200-million-a-year lobster fishery in Northumberland Strait—had not been specific enough. But after another environmental review, Ottawa forged ahead, signing a contract with the consortium, Strait Crossing Development Inc., in October of that

The 13-km-long bridge: some Islanders view it as the route to a more prosperous future—others as a road to social ruin

Under its previous setting, before the capital for the project was raised from the private sector, Strait Crossing will recover its costs in two ways. First, it will charge users a fixed toll (the rates are set last week at \$35 per car and \$40 for a recreational vehicle). As well, Ottawa will provide an annual subsidy of \$42 million—the estimated cost of operating and maintaining the year-round ferry service—for a period of 35 years. After that, even ownership of the bridge reverts to the federal government.

One of the most anticipated effects of the new bridge opening is to put 800 ferry workers out of jobs. In separate ferry will continue to run between Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, but only during summer months. Among them is chief steward Paul Anagnostis, 53, who has worked the Northumberland run for 25 years. Only a year away from drawing his pension, and with a part-time sales job in the office, Anagnostis is optimistic. But the news may not be true, he fears, for ferry workers with young families to support and mortgages to pay. A particular man, Anagnostis is visibly annoyed by the elaborate celebration planned for the bridge inauguration. "Why don't they just cut the ribbon and open it?" he said in an interview about the ferry M/V Holiday Island as it sailed alongside its concrete remains. "It doesn't seem right when so many people are losing their jobs."

And such has obvious reasons for feeling strongly about the food bank. But he is far from alone. As a visitor soon detects, the 106-year habit of arguing about a change to the mainland is some part of the fabric of Island life. Like the well-worn bumper cars that frame the harbor, like the fishing boats bobbing in the sea.

Standing near a heap of empty lobster traps, Mike McGoughgan pines upon the shimmering waters of Northumberland Strait where his son, Charlie, is placing buoys to mark the shallow spots. It is the day before lobster season opens, bringing to an end the five-month fishing hiatus supported by winter. McGoughgan, who has fished the Strait for two decades from his home in Port, 30 km southeast of Charlottetown, is among those hoping to get under way. "It's great out there," he says, still contemplating the uncharacteristically serene waters. "There's really no better life. You are outdoors, you're your own boss, there's a sense of adventure. It's quiet and there's time to think."

These days, one of the things on McGoughgan's mind is the food bank, a project he spent more than eight years fighting against as an outspoken member of Friends of the Island. In part, he was out to protect his livelihood. McGoughgan and other fishermen worry that ice will pile against the piers rather than floating away, keeping the water colder longer and shortening the lobster's breeding season. The potential for disrupting one of the world's most lucrative lobster fisheries just did not make any sense to him. "Why kill the golden goose?" he says. But even if he could be convinced that the bridge would save his throat—and he remains unswayed—McGoughgan would not give his blessing to the project. "God separated us as an island," he says. "If he had wanted to hook us up, he would have done it at the time."

Like many Islanders, the 46-year-old McGoughgan is anxious to protect a way of life that he has come to cherish. After being raised on the Island, he spent several years working on construction sites in Boston—first for his father's civil engineering firm, and then as his own. But when he came home, he found it was time to count home. The father of seven children, ages 4 through 24, McGoughgan says the Island is "a great place to raise a family. They can herdback ride, learn trades. A kid can really be a kid here." It is also safe, he adds, because "people can spot a stranger 30 miles away." But with the bridge, he fears, things will change. Anagnostis will lay by geography; industry fleets like the ferries and McGoughgan will separate out independent farmers and fishermen, and the small community could lose the sense of the new influx of tourists. "It's going to change the whole social structure of the Island," he says.

SPECIAL REPORT

A half-hour's drive north of Charlottetown, the undulating landscape and occasional vistas abruptly give way to a series of miniature golf courses, mock Tudor castles and a Bixby's Believe It Or Not museum. This is the Cavendish strip, a rapidly developing area and one that makes many traditional Islanders visibly wince because of its Cassey Island aesthetics. It is also the focal point for the ubiquitous Anne of Green Gables, the redheaded and orphaned heroine created by turn-of-the-century author Lucy Maud Montgomery. Anne is Prince Edward Island's unofficial representative: her cherubic image graces countless promotional materials and a play in her honor is about to mark its 125th

It's going to change the whole social structure'



McGoughgan (left), the brother's cousin plans the route across Northumberland Strait; tonight, activists are to protest the island way of life.

anniversary year at the Charlottetown Festival.

Cavendish is the heart of what is known as "Anne's Land," where more than 200,000 visitors—a fifth of the 1.6-million Japanese tourists—make a pilgrimage each summer to see Margie, "her original home and paradise of green-crooked, barn dances," fish fleets staged on their behalf. On this bustling May afternoon, though, Anne's Land is a closed town: the food-bank restaurant and amusement parks are still closed for the season and the windows of many of the area motels are shrouded in white sheets. At the lodge-side lodge, owner Sharon Kirkpatrick, 53, and her daughter Sheri, ages, are inspecting the toll tower built on the 100-acre site. And as workers reconnected the water lines, the Kirkpatricks take a few moments to share their very different views on what the future holds for the Island once the Confederation Bridge opens.

Sharon, who has operated the lodge for 17 years, is looking forward to the end of long years waiting during the peak summer months, which resulted in many of her profits arriving with costly loans and low—or non-paying—of the last minute because many could not make the crossing. She is hopeful that the bridge will help her make ends meet by bringing in more customers in the "shoulder months" of June and

September. Still, Sharon remains skeptical of the hype about a potential tourism boom. "I think at all the anticipation, with people adding rooms, opening new restaurants," she says. "If things don't work out, there could be a lot of people with some heavy-duty mortgages."

For Sharon's 29-year-old daughter, the bridge itself is a dubious venture. A part-time aquatic teacher, Sherilyn worries about the impact of the bridge on a promise that she feels has escaped the worst effects of industrialization. "It comes down to a difference between a need and a want," she says. "Maybe we just put too much stock in grandiose megaprojects."

The ring and a better east wind will swing against the window of Jim Larkin's wheelchair office in Charlottetown. Larkin, who runs both a seafood export business and a popular restaurant, has been at work since the early hours trying to get his lobster pointed in shape to remove the first catch of the season, due later in the day. Long-term loss in the Strait has delayed the opening of the fishery by weeks, costing Larkin some precious business. "This ice is a joy to laugh," he says. But the complaint is lessened with a hearty laugh.

"That's how life goes in this business," he explains. "You keep on trucking, and hope it works out."

At the height of the food-bank debate, Larkin served for five years as president of Islanders for a Better Tomorrow. Like many other Charlottetown businessmen, he was the bridge as a logical, long-overdue transportation link. It will mean, he says, shorter turnaround times to get product to market, more tourism, the creation of some much-needed jobs. During the public campaign of 1985-1986, Larkin could be heard making those same arguments at standing-room-only meetings in schools and community halls across the province. He remembers with the intensity of those sessions, and that people were not always able to put their feelings aside at the end of the day. "Some friendships," he says, "were severed because of this."

While some of the concerns raised by critics of the bridge struck him as quite legitimate, others bordered on the ludicrous. There was, for example, the fear that the bridge would bring a criminal element to the island. "One of the best lines I heard was when a guy stood up at one meeting and said, 'Look, there aren't people looking in the bushes to see if a New Brunswick tourist to come over to rape and pilage.'"

On the other hand, Larkin was impressed by the heartfelt statements of many bridge supporters. "Islanders feel very passionate about their province," he says. "A lot of people said if the bridge improved the economy it would be a shame if they then let it come back and ruin it."

These days, Larkin believes the positions have cooled and an increasing majority of Islanders share his view that the fixed link is simply a more convenient way to move people and products. "You know, when you look at it from the ferry, it's concrete, piers, spans," he says. "It's just a bridge—and that's how everyone will treat it."

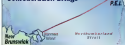
Well, not everyone. As she sits in the book-lined bedroom of her farmhouse near Northumberland Strait, about a 15-minute drive east of the Borden ferry landing, Betty Hewitt can still recall the passion that she became famous for during a decade-long battle against the Confederation Bridge. A founding chairman of Friends of the Island, Hewitt was born and raised in Charlottetown and worked as a teacher before marrying her husband, Derek, in 1962. Together, they ran the Powers Book Store that has been in Everett's family since 1783. This farmhouse, she notes, was the birthplace of Canadiana Hewitt—Everett's great-grandson and one of only two members of the Prince Edward Island legislature to vote against joining Canada in 1873. Sometimes, she thinks, it is his rebellious spirit that has inspired her to stand up against the fixed link.

In fact, Hewitt first came to the public prominence in 1973, the

Island's centennial year, when she led a group called The Brothers and Sisters of Cornwall. Her members sought to counter what they saw in the ill-conceived boomerang of the day—a philosophy Hewitt describes as "selling the province at any price" and one that she says has inspired the push for the fixed link. Unfurling a totem pole showing a serene Anne of Green Gables made sitting in a sunlit apple tree—a picture that was taken in one of Hewitt's orchards—she asserts that there is a basic contradiction between the province's promotion as a pastoral retreat and protecting the sort of development that will destroy that very life. "It's like running a bordello at the same time that they're trying to operate a day-by-Bible school," she says.

For all that, Hewitt realizes that her fight is over; that the bridge is a reality she must learn to live with. But when the thousands gather for the weekend Newfoundland celebrations, she does not expect to see Islanders—many of them, she believes, in her husband's past, around the board—sing the words of a song that she says is "a song about the land and the sea and the sky." "I don't want to see that," she says, and she looks at the Strait. "I don't want to see that kind of bridge." □

Confederation Bridge





An engineering marvel

It shouldn't had never won anything quite like it. On July 13, 1995, the world's longest floating crane, known as the *Svennea*, arrived off the coast of Prince Edward Island for work on the \$1-billion bridge that has finally linked the province to mainland Canada. With some retilting, the Dutch-built *Svennea* stood at 202 m—three times as high as the Prince Edward Hotel, the island's tallest building. Over the next 17 months, the *Svennea* methodically transported massive precast piers and girders—some weighing up to 7,500 tonnes—from the shoreline to an appropriate point along the Northumberland Strait. It then delicately moved the pieces in place, at heights of up to 80 m above the waterline. For a time, the *Svennea* was the talk of the island, its movements eagerly tracked in hourly radio reports on CBC, Charlottetown.

The *Svennea*, which has since moved on to other assignments, played a critical role in building the 15-km-long Confederation Bridge that now stretches across the Strait between Bedford, P.E.I., and Jervisville Island, N.B. One of the world's longest bridges, Confederation is the longest over water that chokes up with ice during winter months. And, by any standards, it is an engineering marvel, built as a gift to the 40th anniversary of the last little-remembered error. In the process, the project won over many naysayers—people who said the bridge could never be built, at least not in the three years set by the federal government and Strait Crossing Development Inc., the private consortium hired to construct the bridge. The doubters included many of the 2,000 people—more than 90 per cent of them Atlantic Canadians—employed by Strait Crossing. "We had to make believers out of our own workmen," says project director Paul Gonschka. "It wasn't until the spring of 1996, when all the pieces were in full construction, that people started to say 'Hey, this is really going to happen.'"

Under the contract signed between Ottawa and Strait Crossing in October 1993, the developer had until June 1, 1997 to finish the bridge project. If it failed to meet that deadline, the company would have to increase the \$420-million-a-year cost of operating the ferry service

The *Svennea*
a floating
44-month
schedule

SPECIAL REPORT

the structure. Instead, each of the cone-shaped pier bases is capped with a shaft. The shafts feature a bell-shaped, concrete ice shield, half of it above the ice, the other half below. Designed to act like the bow of an icebreaker, the shields force the pack ice to ride up the side of the bridge and break apart.

Some bridge opponents remain skeptical about the ice shields—saying that over the past three winters ice in the Strait has been unusually light and so the piers have not really been tested. But Gonschka says that satellite photos show the shields are doing their job. He also points out that the piers are built to withstand the force of 3,000 tonnes of ice—or about 15 times the force that icebreakers working in the High Arctic ever have to contend with.

As well as ensuring that the bridge is structurally sound, designers had to consider how to make it safe to drive. No passing will be allowed on the two-lane bridge, which has emergency shoulders on both sides. Electronically pointed speed limits will be lowered from the maximum of 80 km/h, depending on driving conditions. And a 1.1-m-high concrete barrier along either side will prevent drivers from having a clear view of the water below decks—a measure intended to soothe those who suffer from height phobias. The barrier also serves as a partial shield in an area that is among the windiest in Canada and one prone to ferocious snowstorms.

Which leads to another common concern among Islanders: will the bridge ever have to be shut down? The answer, according to project designer Ross Gilmour, is simple. "If you can get to the bridge, then it will be open," he says. "The only time the bridge will always be better than on the highway looking up to it." Depending on the bridge—as they now must—as their only link to the mainland during the long winter months, Islanders can be expected to hold him to his word.

DANIEL BERGMAN is in Charlottetown.

across Northern Ireland. Strik, "From Day 1, we had 1,500 days to go and we had to make each one of those count," says Gonschka. And since winter ice made the Strait impossible to work in for up to five months of each year, the decision was made early on to precast more than 80 per cent of the bridge on land, then move it out in large segments as the waters cleared.

Work began in earnest in November 1993, with the levelling of a 60-hectare pot-hole farm, purchased by the consortium for more than \$1 million—a four-month operation that entailed the removal of some 500,000 cubic metres of fill. This became the main fabrication yard, where an army of 1,500 workers spent the next two years constructing the bridge components. The bridge consists of 44 spans, each marked by a separate pier base, pier shaft and main girder. The pier bases range in height from 13 m to 40 m, depending on the depth of water they stand in. The main girders are 150 m long and weigh 7,500 tonnes—the lack of two modern destroyers.

The most challenging—and controversial—aspect of the project proved to be the pack ice that sometimes piles up in the Strait, forming cliffs up to 10 m high. If the

bridge was built on vertical columns, the ice must pass up against it, potentially levelling each of the cone-shaped pier bases in capped with a shaft. The shafts feature a bell-shaped, concrete ice shield, half of it above the ice, the other half below. Designed to act like the bow of an icebreaker, the shields force the pack ice to ride up the side of the bridge and break apart.

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DANIEL BERGMAN is in Charlottetown.



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ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

The RCMP in Nova Scotia is investigating hundreds of allegations of physical and sexual abuse at provincial youth detention centres. The investigation covers a period from 1942 to 1984 and involves about 400 people who allegedly committed offences against 1,500 children. Only a third of the alleged victims have been interviewed so far, although a majority of the suspects have been identified, police said.

HIBERNIA HEADS TO SEA

Six tug boats eased the \$5.6-billion Hibernia oil platform away from its deep-water construction site and out to sea, beginning a 13-day journey for the 600,000-kilogram floating concrete drilling rig. The final destination for the platform is the Grand Banks, 375 km southwest of St. John's, Nfld. Drilling is scheduled to start on Aug. 15.

LOOKING FOR COD

A limited groundfishery resumed off southern Newfoundland for the first time since Ottawa closed it down due to depleted fish stocks in 1982. About 5,500 fishermen are eligible for the harvest, limited to 14,000 tonnes of cod. Fishermen in Placentia Bay netted their two-month quota in just three days, but officials said it was too early to say how well stocks have recovered.

EAGLESON'S WOES

Ontario Superior Court Justice Joseph O'Brien ordered former broker czar Alan Eagleston to pay \$448,000 in legal costs incurred by former Boston Bank Mike Gills. In December, O'Brien ordered Eagleston to pay \$87,000 in damages to Gills when the defendant successfully sued Eagleston over an insurance claim. Eagleston still faces unrelated RCMP and FBI charges, and 46 counts of unprofessional conduct laid by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

SOMALIA UNDER ATTACK

Former chief of Justice staff Jean Boyle filed a motion with the Federal Court in Canada asking to bar the Bonville inquiry from making any finding that could "reasonably be expected to bring disrepute" on him. He also asked the court to prevent the inquiry from publishing its findings, due on June 13, until the court can rule on his request. Boyle was driven from his post last October after the inquiry criticized him for his role in altering documents.



SPRING IS NOT IN THE AIR:

SPRING IS NOT IN THEIR: A prolester negotiates his way through fallen tree branches in Calgary after a weak storm dumped up to 25 cm of soggy snow on the city last week. Two days later, Edmonton was blanketed with 26 cm of snow, damaging 16,000 trees and knocking out power to 35,000 area residents. At least five people died in traffic-related accidents as a result of the two storms. The rest of the country, meanwhile, shivered through one of the coldest May's in 50 years. Environment Canada says an Arctic air mass trapped over Hudson Bay is to blame, but predicts a much warmer than average summer.

West Coast salmon wars

First they were off, then they were on again. As Canada and the United States tried to settle their battle over the West Coast salmon fishery, Canadian negotiators scored a pact to "quote break" off their talks with their U.S. counterpart, saying American negotiator Mary Beth West did not have the mandate to make a deal. Then B.C. Premier Glen Clark misled the stakes by giving notice that he planned to cancel a lease that gives the U.S. navy access to a contested underwater weapons-testing range off Vancouver Island, near Nanaimo. Finally, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said an agreement on further talks had been reached and that West was

return to the table on May 30 with the required mandate. "My expectation is that now that negotiations have resumed, we hope that Mr. Clark would be in a position to reconsider," Averetty said in Winnipeg.

There is much at stake. The Pacific Salmon Treaty—which requires that each country catch only the number of fish that spawn in its own waters—has been in limbo for four years. Canada claims that U.S. fishing fleets have been catching up to four million fish above their annual quota, thereby costing the Canadian industry \$60 million a year. In all, the B.C. salmon industry is worth about \$750 million annually.

Cracking down on Quebec's Rock Machine

It was one of the biggest police operations in Quebec history. About 500 officers, in 70 raids across the province, swooped down on a deadly little gang—the Rock Machine. Members of the police's Wolvestar anti-gang squad seized almost \$3 million worth of material, including guns, drugs and hundreds of kilograms of stolen explosives, and arrested 20 people. Police said the thugs were meant to store a wave of bombings that have killed 36 people in three years. The Rock Machine is emblemized in a vicious turf war with the St. Helix Angels for control of the province's drug trade. Police warned that the Hell's Angels are next.

A high flyer's disgrace

Critics question the U.S. military's rules about sex

For 29-year-old 1st Lieut. Kelly Finn, last week may well have been the worst of her life. On Tuesday, America's first woman B-52 bomber pilot took court-martial at a U.S. air force base in North Dakota for adultery, lying and dishonesty. TV cameras tracked her every move, giving her an unwanted star status within a scandal-plagued military. On Thursday, the air force decided instead to grant her a less-than-honorable discharge and said it might bill her for the return of \$84,000 in air force academy tuition fees. At a Pentagon news conference, Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall flatly denied the allegations of some women's groups that a male officer would have been dealt with less harshly, saying it "has never really been an issue in this case." But by week's end, Finn's fall from grace—perhaps in retaliation—had reopened the whole debate over the integration of women in a military that is now 13 per cent female.

Once largely philosophical, that debate exploded into hot headlines six years ago, when the so-called Tailhook scandal in which 83 female officers claimed to have been sexually abused at a Las Vegas convention of naval and marine flyers. In the past five years, the air force and the army have court-martialed 600 men and 24 women on charges of adultery. On May 6, army drill Sgt. Delmar Simpson was sentenced to 30 months in prison by a military jury for raping two trainees at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland.

At the same time, 11 other Aberdeen soldiers have been charged with sexual misconduct, and investigations are under way at U.S. bases worldwide. A sexual harassment telephone line set up by the army last November has received more than 1,300 complaints. The day after Simpson was sentenced, the army charged its highest-ranking enlisted soldier, Gene McKinney, the sergeant-major of the army, with sexual misconduct and sexual assault involving four service women over nearly three years. McKinney, 46, his wife at his side, declared that he had done nothing wrong. If convicted, he faces 30 years in prison.

Kelly Finn's "general discharge," a tilted middle ground between the honorable and dishonorable varieties, ended a story that once might have belonged to an unimpeachable army young woman hoping to succeed in a man's world. The youngest of five



Finn, Marc Zigo (left): If her name had been Errol Flynn, this wouldn't have happened

children, Finn was among the first women to win a coveted scholarship to the prestigious U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where she graduated with honors. Within two years, her comrades would ber the "most distinguished" in her class at B-52 training school and she became the first woman qualified to fly the huge nuclear bombers. By then, the air force had spent of more than \$1 million in her training and made her the subject of a promotional movie that boasted that her future "any one day might become squadron commander and a shuttle astronaut."

Finn was assigned to the remote and featureless landscape of Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. Minot is a friendly small town, but there is little for newcomers to do. She joined an air force soccer team coached by Marc Zigo, a slight but handsome 36-year-old with a dark blond horseshoe. At first, he was lithe on the base with the women he had married the year before, Airman Gayle Zigo. Marc Zigo told Finn that he was legally separated—which was not true—and she fell in love with him. He, Finn later learned, had her real "teller of the heart." As a symbol of his love, Zigo gave

Finn an "Irish friendship ring" that his wife had given to him as a Valentine's gift. And Gayle Zigo now left her husband.

Scored and losters, Gayle Zigo and Finn were alone—they now are divorced—widely compared to the base commander. She also wrote a letter to Widnall in which she said, "Five days a week after we arrived to this base, 1st Lieut. Finn was in bed with my husband having sex." Finn denied having an affair with a married man, but her boss ordered her to stay away from Marc Zigo. Finn now admits that she made a secret pact to continue seeing him at a cottage she rented off base, although both claimed publicly that their relationship was platonic. But the base commander discovered the affair would go on and both were questioned again. Finn proclaimed her innocence, but her lower co-ordinated with investigators, answering the most intimate of questions: what kind of birth control did she use? what sexual positions did she favor?

Last February, Finn was charged with adultery, with lying to her commanding officer and with disobeying an order by confining to see Zigo. Investigators also discovered that Finn had a brief relationship with an enlisted man last year and charged her with that, too. Facing three years' imprisonment, she hired Virginia-based lawyer Frank Spenser, the country's top civilian attorney specializing in military law, who persuaded her to give interviews, and claimed she had been charged only because she was a woman. "If her name had been Errol Flynn, this would never have happened," Spenser told *Maclean's*.

A smiling Zigo was giving interviews of his own. At one point he

said the court martial was convoked, he told TV crews when he would be leaving the base so they could capture his departure. "I'm much better looking than that old picture they used on 60 Minutes," he declared to reporters. When Zigo's wife was quoted as saying she could not compete with the sexually unimpaired Finn, Spenser said, "Gayle Zigo is a victim of emotional and physical abuse who should direct her anger at Marc Zigo, not 1st Lieut. Finn."

The subsequent airing of yet another military sex scandal rattled the Pentagon. In private, senior officers told *Maclean's* that the case was handled "apologetically" by the air force and has done great damage not only to recruiting but to the entire policy pushed hard by President Bill Clinton to promote women in the armed forces and promise them equality.

Spenser announced on the eve of the court martial last week that Finn was ready to resign from the air force to save the Pentagon further embarrassment, on condition that she be given an honorable discharge that would allow her to fly for the National Guard or on other government service. Widnall immediately postponed the proceedings and, on Thursday evening, and she was granting the "general discharge," which Finn accepted. It will mean that she cannot fly for the military without a special waiver. "Although the adultery charge that has received the greatest public focus," Widnall said, "it is the allegations of lack of integrity and disobedience to orders that have been of principal concern to the air force."

In short half the American states, adultery is still a crime. Although civil laws are almost never enforced, recent polls show that 75 per cent of Americans believe adultery is always wrong. The Uniform Code of

Military Justice declares adultery to be a felony because it is disruptive to "good order and discipline."

However, Finn's public disgrace has touched off widespread discussion as to whether the military should be permitted to pry so decisively into the sex lives of its members. Under the 1950-era experiment of integrating the sexes has fallen Edouard Holmes Nunn, the Democrat who represents the District of Columbia in the House of Representatives, is calling for a complete review of the military law against adultery and fraternization. "We have outdated, non-functional rules on our paper," she says. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, one of the most powerful men in Washington, has accused the Pentagon of being out of touch with reality.

Perhaps most significant of all, a group of conservative House Republicans will introduce an amendment to the defense budget bill that would put an end to co-ed recruit training and keep men and women further apart in the military. "I think we are violating something we asked the Land not to do," says Maryland Representative Rance Barrick. "I think we are placing them in temptation." Congress-watchers say the measure stands a good chance of passing in some form. But as the debate raged on last week, the thoughts of many were with Finn. "What has happened to her is a tragedy," said New York Democratic Representative Nita Lowey. Conceivably, too, Finn's fall has tarnished the attraction of a military career for many American women.

RAE CORRELL with WILLIAM LOWMYER in Washington



Tshisekedi supporters protest: subdued

his Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo. His government, in which he retained personal control of the military, was announced at midnight. By week's end, he still had not lived up to his promise to address the country's 44 million people. As for elections, Kabila's advisers last week outlined to insist that he remains committed to a multiparty vote within 12 months. But in the meantime, Kabila's Alliance will rule, apparently alone. "I don't think this is the time to fracture the country," remarked Kabila's finance minister, Mwasa Nanga Mwampanga. "There will come a time for elections."

Prominent foreign voices were quick to defend Kabila last week, among them South African President Nelson Mandela. On a visit to Zimbabwe, Mandela criticized Western countries for "lecturing" Kabila about democracy, particularly those "that have supported the most vicious dictators for decades now." Mandela's deputy, Thabo Mbeki, who played a key role in trying to arrange meetings between Kabila and Mobutu, cautioned the international community to avoid pressuring the new Congo authorities into quick elections, saying there were serious obstacles to achieving a fair poll so soon after taking power. "It would be unfair to say to somebody who worked into Kinshasa the day before yesterday: 'Set a date for elections,'" argued Mbeki.

Despite the international endorsements, however, lingering doubts persisted back in Congo about the new leader. Many Kinshasa locals would like to see the country's Kabila to build. They were exasperated by the disturbing presence of foreign troops on the streets of Kinshasa. Alliance deals to the contrary, there was no concealing the fact that large numbers of Kabila's troops, possibly a majority, were composed of soldiers from Rwanda, Uganda, Angola and perhaps elsewhere—at times enforcing new regulations, including a ban on women wearing leggings or short skirts. Many in the capital spoke only in the English and Swahili accents of former east Africa. Further south, in the diamond fields, well-armed Portuguese-speaking troops were consolidating positions close to the border with Angola, a former Portuguese colony. Voicing the opinion of many worried Congolese, opposition leader Tshisekedi thanked neighboring countries for whatever help they provided in overthrowing Mobutu. But, he added, "I am asking them to recall their forces now, so that Zaireans can resolve their problems among themselves."

That may be the biggest challenge ahead.

Congo's new leader ardently changed the country's name. In one confounding switch to the neighboring Republic of the Congo, declared himself president and suspended the democratic transitional constitution that Tshisekedi and others had painstakingly negotiated with Mobutu. Despite widespread expectations of an arrival in Kinshasa that would echo the earlier triumphal entry of his troops, he chose to slip into the capital last Thursday from his base in the country's mineral-rich south almost as furtively as Mobutu had left it, arriving unannounced, late at night. After that, he remained cloistered with the senior members of



Kabila in control

WORLD CONGO

A disturbing start

Fears rise about the future of democracy

As a military conqueror, Laurent Kabila demonstrated matchless skill, ruling across a country the size of Western Europe in seven short months. As a political leader, however, the 56-year-old self-proclaimed president of the newly renamed Democratic Republic of Congo is showing himself to be far less deft. In the space of less than a week at the helm of the vast, jangled land formerly known as Zaire—and until 1971 as the Belgian Congo—Kabila managed to transform popular euphoria over the fall of one dictatorship into widespread fears that another was rising in its place. There were even demonstrations on the streets of Kinshasa last week, few in number but threatening enough to require dispersal by gunfire, all denouncing what they viewed as signs of a new, creeping autocracy. "We cannot fill a hole by creating another hole," complained one of the protesters, Ngidi Kongozo, as he marched towards the parliament buildings in the capital. "We are going to struggle for our liberty, even if our blood is shed."

The spark that ignited the protest was the announcement last Thursday—two days before a scheduled—of a new Congolese government, a 13-member cabinet that not only concentrated most power in Kabila's own hands but also excluded the country's perennial opposition leader, Etienne Tshisekedi. In response, Tshisekedi's followers took to the streets while the opposition leader himself, an unrelenting if not violent foe of ousted dictator Mobutu Sese

Selo since 1980, criticized Kabila's fledgling administration. "This government does not exist for me," Tshisekedi declared. "I ask all the people to resist with their last energy all attempts to impose a government without popular legitimacy."

Western diplomats in Congo's capital described Kabila's decision to snail the opposition leader as a serious political error. "Tshisekedi's a difficult man," said one, "but you simply can't forget that he is a commonly popular in Kinshasa." If the move betrayed a certain hesitancy, however, it was an isolated event. Ever since the troops under his command forced Mobutu to flee the country the previous weekend, Kabila's actions had engendered nagging concerns about his methods, as well as his intentions.

BURKE CAME with JENNIFER GLASSER in Kinshasa

Maclean's

In addition to articles from the current issue, the site offers original items of interest to Internet users. A sample:

On The WEB

<http://www.canoe.ca/macleans>

Web NOTES

CAUGHT IN THE WEB

Bad drivers on Canada's West Coast beware. A novel Internet Web site now invites Vancouver-area residents to smitch on methused motorists. By connecting to Bloody Idiots: British Columbia's Record of Dumb Drivers, witnesses to such potentially lethal manoeuvres as failing to signal, dangerous lane changing and red-light running can report the details—complete with the offender's licence plate number—for others to see. Last June, Trevor Wilson, a native of Australia who has lived in the Vancouver area since 1994, launched the Web site after he saw a motorist speeding through a school zone. "I'm not one of these people that likes to jump out and abuse people," he explains. "And I didn't have a cell phone on me to call the police. So I thought, 'What else could I do?'"

Japan's Digital Diva

For rising 17-year-old Japanese pop star Kyoko Date, image is, well, everything. In fact, although she has several successful singles to her credit, and will soon be appearing in video concerts and TV commercials, Kyoko is nothing more than the computer-generated offspring of Tokyo model agency Horipro. Constructed from some 40,000 polygons, her face alone required 10 graphic artists to complete. For more information, visit the Kyoko Date Info Page.

Browser Beat

From hits on its Web site, U.S.-based BrowserWatch estimates that 63 per cent of Web surfers now use Netscape Navigator as their browser, while 27 per cent use Microsoft's Internet Explorer. Barely in the running are IBM WebExplorer (2.1 per cent), Browse (1.9 per cent), Lynx (0.9 per cent), and AOL for Windows (0.5 per cent).



WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

The hottest thing next to the sun.



Maclean's

In addition to articles from the current issue and items on the internet, the site offers users a forum for comment and debate. A sample:

On The WEB

<http://www.canoe.ca/maclean>



This Week

• Health care reform by D.A.

The federal government must take leadership in seeing that the provinces receive sufficient funding to staff and operate hospitals in all of Canada. We are fast approaching Third World standards in terms of health care. If we can't afford to look after our own people, why do we seem to look down on less-prosperous countries?

• Bre-X, fools for gold? by E.

My only hope is that we in the industry do not pay for the mistakes, greed and incompetence of a few if the Basing saga turns out to be a sham. Responsibility, I guess, will be directed towards the one who is already dead. But much blame should befall the security regulators, for their duty is to verify the quality of work being done on an exploration property. And please Mr. Walsh, if Basing turns out to be a pile of fool's gold, take your share of the responsibility or get out of this industry.

• Sexy Canadians? by M.D.

I'd have to agree. Most Canadians I've met outside of Canada have tended to be polite, perhaps a little self-righteous, well-educated, competitive drinkers, on the chubby side, happy looking and mutually respectful. But sexy? No.



WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

World NOTES

UPSET IN IRAN

Mohammad Khatami, Iran's former culture minister and a moderate, was a stunning victory in the country's presidential election. He took 89 per cent of the vote, compared with 25 per cent for his main rival, conservative parliamentary speaker Ali Akbar Nategh-Nour. The vote was widely viewed as a referendum on Iran's 15 years of Islamic revolution.

CLINTON BACKS CHINA

President Bill Clinton recommended renewing China's U.S. trade privileges, setting the stage for what was expected to be the toughest congressional debate in years. After his annual review of China's Most Favored Nation status, Clinton said: "We're more likely to have a positive influence on China by engaging them than we are by trying to isolate them." Many in Congress are angry over such issues as China's human rights record. Clinton has vowed to veto any rejection of MFN status.

ARRESTS IN BURMA

After Washington banned new U.S. investments in Burma to protest its "severe repression," Aung San's military government detained at least 65 political activists, opposition leaders said. The detainees were members of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi's pro-democracy party. The United States pressed the Association of Southeast Asian Nations not to admit Burma this year, but ASEAN members said they would proceed.

IRISH PEACE HOPES

British officials held their first talks with Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, since an IRA bombing in London ended a 17-month ceasefire in early 1996. The session in Belfast was an attempt by British's new Labour government to get the Irish peace process moving again. The two sides planned more meetings.

TURKEY ATTACKS KURDS

Turkish forces continued to hit Kurdish rebel targets in northern Iraq as international concern mounted. More than 10,000 Turkish troops entered Iraq to battle the Kurdistan Workers Party, which won the new launch attacks on southwestern Turkey. France called on Turkey to withdraw, but the United States, which leads the patrol of northern Iraq, issued only mild criticism.



HOMELESS IN BANGLADESH: A family carries the damage to their village after a powerful cyclone left up to 1,600 people dead and more than one million homeless in the storm-racked country. Winds reaching 200 km/h lasted as long as 15 hours, smashing houses and sinking hundreds of fishing boats. The storm was as powerful as one that killed 138,000 people in 1991. The much smaller death toll was due in part to a new early warning system in which 38,000 volunteers helped get people to 1,380 recently erected concrete shelters. The government appealed for foreign help to build 2,000 more.

Drama at the McVeigh trial

Prosecutors ended their case against accused Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh as they began it—with emotional testimony of the horror unleashed when a U.S. federal building was blown up on April 19, 1995, killing 169 people. In 30 days of proceedings in Denver, the prosecution sought to prove to the jury of seven men and five women that McVeigh, a 39-year-old army veteran, was responsible for the blast. Associates testified that he harbored extreme right views and hoped the attack would spark a "general uprising" in the United States. Witnesses testified that McVeigh bought explosives and rented the truck that carried the bomb to Oklahoma City. And a former army buddy of McVeigh, Michael Fortier, said the young man had told him he was prepared to die in a suicide attack on the building.

McVeigh's defense team intended to stress that no eyewitness saw him near the building on the morning of the bombing. His lawyer, Stephen Jones, opened his case by suggesting that the real bomber died in the blast—because a severed leg found in the rubble had never been matched with a body. But the defense star witness later changed her story. Daina Bradley said she saw a white man get out of the rented truck, in addition to a "tall" African-American man she had described previously.

Yeltsin vows to reform the ailing military

Angerily pointing to the chaotic state of the Russian armed forces, President Boris Yeltsin fired this top two defense officials and delivered a scathing attack on the military command. The moves signaled a new attempt to reduce and reform the 5-million-strong force. Russian soldiers are underpaid and ill-fed, corruption is rife, and the military is barely able to handle. But critics say Yeltsin's dismissal of defense minister Igor Sergeev and general staff chief Viktor Semakow could not deflect blame from the President's own years of inaction on the crisis. He named Gen. Igor Sergeev, 58, formerly in charge of Russia's nuclear mission, as new defense minister.

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Publish or perish

Canada's magazine industry faces an uncertain future

BY JOHN SCHIBFIELD

Sixth-floor, three-in-one is the living room in her modest bungalow in Cegonville, B.C., Linda Singleton puts out *Thriller '89* Journal, a five-year-old magazine devoted to lovers of shilled toys. But the business these days is anything but child's play. Singleton, a former by-volume manager who always dreamed of running her own company, is struggling to stay afloat in the face of less-than-cuddly competition from mid U.S. and British magazines such as *Talky Bear* and *Teddy Bears and Friends*. Now, Singleton has something else to worry about. Like hundreds of other publishers, she is anxiously awaiting the final outcome of a ruling by the Geneva-based World Trade Organization that could wreck any government measures designed to protect domestic magazines. "If that goes through, I don't know what I'd do," says Singleton, 40. "It could kill me. It could just wipe me totally out."

The future has never been more uncertain for Canada's 1,600 consumer and trade magazines. Battered by the seemingly unstoppable forces of globalization and a swirl of international rules aimed at lowering trade barriers, the country's publishers are finding it increasingly difficult to shield peripheral publishers and other cultural industries from unfettered foreign competition. The silence of any debate on the issue during the signing to the June 1994 free-trade agreement prompts publishing executives to question whether the major parties care any longer about maintaining a distinctly Canadian magazine industry. "In light of their silence on this key point," says Michael Rao, chairman of the Canadian Magazine Publishers Association, "we have to wonder whether they're going to stand firm or fold."

The government's performance to date has not inspired confidence. It suffered its most serious setback in January when the WTO ruled against three of the four measures that Ottawa gave to keep out "supernatural" editors—foreign magazines that retain their original content but solicit Canadian advertising. Heritage Minister Sheila Copps said last month that Canada is asking the trade body to reconsider any one of those measures—an 80-per-cent tax on revenues of foreign magazines.



Knowing of a Toronto newsstand, some publishers wonder whether Ottawa will stand firm or fold

Prodded by communications firms such as Time Warner Inc., Washington has launched its own appeal in a bid to stoke down postal subsidies for Canadian magazines, the only measure untouched by the WTO. "We think that everyone around the world should be open," says Art Becker, Time Warner's vice-president of law and public policy. Accordingly for the Liberals, U.S. trade officials say they will use a recent speech by International Trade Minister Art Eggleton as ammunition in their assault on Canada's magazine laws. "From a trade perspective," Eggleton said, "I must ask whether our cultural interests are best served by the blunt instruments of limits on foreign investment and control of Canadian culture."

As Ottawa looks for ways to protect homegrown magazines, a more serious threat is lurking around the corner. Canada is among 26 nations helping to forge the Multilateral Agreement on Investment, a new pact that would force the world's most industrialized countries to treat foreign-owned business the same way they treat domestic firms. In the magazine industry, that could give U.S. publications unrestricted access to Canadian advertising. Theoretically,

Ottawa could continue to subsidize Canadian magazines but only if it provided exactly the same assistance to their foreign-owned rivals. The federal government has said it is pushing hard to exempt cultural industries from that provision, but the United States opposes any such exemption—and so far the issue remains unresolved.

At all that has convinced some high-profile publishers that a day of reckoning is fast approaching. If Canada fails to secure cultural protections in the MAI, the country's magazine industry will be devastated, says *Saturday Night* publisher Maureen Cawson. "You'd start to see Canadian magazines dying within six months," she says. "Within five years, you certainly would not have an industry. You'd have maybe a couple of titles."

The seeds sown by the industry became crystallizing this year, when a five-year WTO panel ruled in favor of the United States in a long-running battle over Canada's magazine laws. It was a watershed moment. For more than 60 years, Canadian governments had imposed sanctions on U.S. periodicals to nurture a domestic magazine industry. David MacKenzie, a University of Toronto scholar who has studied Canadian magazines, says the pressure for protection was strongest at times of widespread national sentiment, such as after the First World War and during the Vietnam War.

In 1945, when Canadian students were screaming anti-American slogans on university campuses, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson's Liberal government introduced two particular controversial measures: a tariff to keep U.S. magazines from crossing the border, and a tax law that prohibited advertisers from deducting the cost of advertising in magazines that were foreign-controlled or consisted of more than 50 per cent Canadian content. Two and a half decades later, both of which had Canada's official operations, were exempted from the 1985 legislation. But in 1991, Parliament amended the law so that it applied to the two publications. *Reader's Digest* recognized to qualify as a Canadian magazine, while *Time* abandoned its Canadian edition.

The issue burst on the scene again in 1993 when Time Warner introduced a special edition of *Sports Illustrated*, circumventing the tariff barrier by using satellite firms to beam stories from New York City to a printing plant in Richmond Hill, Ont. The introduction of the 80-per-cent tax in 1995 halted that effort and prompted Washington to complain to the WTO.

Despite the Liberals' claim that their commitment to Canadian magazines is unwavering, if you have a word of Canadian advertising in American magazines, it's basically the death of Canadian magazines—no one has any intention of buckling down. "Copps said in an interview last week. Added Eggleton: "We want to maintain a magazine written in Canada but sold in Canada by Canadians." Behind the scenes, however, the cabinet is split on the issue, with free-traders such as Eggleton and Finance Minister Paul Martin being all right with such cultural considerations as Copps and Foreign Minister Lloyd Austin. Even the most ardent open-market advocates agree something must be done to help Canadian periodicals, but they are at a loss to agree on the best way to do it.

Politicians are split the only ways with mixed feelings. In some cases, the magazines' own corporate masters have argued against protectionism. Press mogul Conrad Black, the owner of *Saturday Night*, owns 655 newspapers on four

continents, and has often railed against Canadian nationalists. And when Phil Lind, the vice-chairman of Rogers Communications Inc., which owns *Maclean's*, got together with Time Warner board member Ted Turner last month for some dinner fishing near Toronto, the topic of magazines came up, says Rogers spokesman Jan Jones. "They just discussed cable-TV issues," he says. "In some of our other business operations—cable television communications—Bogers has aggressively sought partnerships with U.S. corporate giants, including AT&T."

There is no doubt about where most advertisers stand on the issue. Magazine advertising accounts for only about three per cent of total spending in Canada—and it's been on a downward slide almost everywhere. David Harrison, president of Toronto-based Harrison, Young, Pressman & Newell Inc., one of the country's largest ad-buy-



Singleton: struggling to remain afloat in the face of stiff foreign competition

ing agencies, says it is a straightforward view because a reduction in the number of Canadian magazines would lessen competition and lead to higher rates. Nevertheless, says Harrison, "If you were to ask senior ad executives at American in-house client companies, they would say the only issue is their cost."

That cost-cutting could ultimately kill the Canadian magazine industry. In a mail survey conducted by 12 magazines this spring, 84 per cent of the respondents said it is important to them to read Canadian news. Of 100 million potential readers, 58,000 said in survey letters: "I'd like to see the sector's survival as advertising, which last year accounted for more than 60 per cent of its \$887 million in revenues. "You can't compare for advertising with publications that have no editorial costs." CMPA president Catherine Bessie says.

Even the CMPA acknowledges that, strictly from a business perspective, Canadian publishers would be better off becoming advertising representatives for Canadian editions of U.S. magazines. But the issue goes beyond dollars and cents—it is about preserving a Canadian voice, says Michael Aboon, chairman of Canadian Business Press, which represents the country's 500 trade magazines. "The Americans are so strictly as a business they say, 'What's your problem?'" With the collapse of the U.S. publishing industry and business leaders increasingly desperate for opportunities beyond Canada's borders, fewer seem to view that as a problem. □

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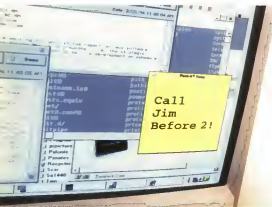


Number of Canadian magazine titles



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Ross Laver



Personal Business

The 'lost generation'

The current jobless rate among young Canadians—27 per cent, according to the latest Statistics Canada survey—was another crisis? Halper Kluge, one of the country's top business leaders, seems to think so. At a CIBC-sponsored conference north of Toronto last week, he called youth unemployment "Canada's single most important social issue." Unless a solution is found soon, says Kluge, the CIBC's president of personal and commercial banking, "there is a risk of losing a whole generation of individuals who won't find a job."

Strong words, but Kluge's warning has a familiar ring. In the early 1980s, when the jobless rate among those aged 15 to 24 was even higher than now, there was all sorts of ominous talk about the horrendous consequences of youth unemployment. In July, 1984, I wrote a cover story for *Maclean's* that warned of the creation of a "lost generation" of alienated youth "for whom the temporary protection of unemployment insurance and welfare is gradually becoming a straitjacket of lifelong dependency."

Last week, I managed to track down four of the young people quoted in that article. Back then, all were out of work and close to despair. Today, however, they hardly fit the picture of a lost generation. One was 16 and living in Winnipeg in the summer of 1984, a high-school graduate who had just spent three months on the dole. After the story appeared, she took a series of short-term jobs and started business administration at Red River Community College. In 1987, the Mississauga Telephone Systems hired her as a 411 operator. Married with two children, she still works for MTS, now as a customer service rep. "The money's good and I feel I'm in one of the safest areas in terms of job security," she says.

Darren Bartel, a graduate of the British Columbia Institute of Technology, used to spend 10 hours a week watching TV and hanging out the beach near his home in Coquitlam, B.C. In September, 1984, he was out and in the

paper for a truck-manufacturing company in Kelowna that was looking for parts designers. He applied and was hired. Thirteen years later, he is the supervisor of lifting and materials, overseeing a staff of 18. The company, Western Star Trucks, once close to repossessing him in 1990, but a new owner turned things around and "business has gone straight up from there." Thanks in part to an employee stock plan that netted him \$30,000, Bartel, who has a wife and a nine-year-old son, is mortgage-free at 36. "I'm more than pleased by the way things turned out," he says.

Karen Kadane (now Miller), was 22 in 1984, a qualified teacher who was growing tired of pounding the pavement in looking for work in Vancouver. That fall, she took the first teaching job that was offered to her, in a Muslim community in northern Saskatchewan. Eighteen months later, she transferred to the Chilliwack school board. She still teaches there, although with four young children of her own she has to work part-time.

Royce Charles-Dunne appeared to have the bleakest prospect in 1984. He was 17, a Grade 9 dropout who had run away from home and was living in a downtown Toronto hostel. Over the next three years, he worked at just about every job imaginable, from opening a bank to selling cars door-to-door. A short stint in telemarketing led to a job doing deadbills for a collection agency. By 1992, he was earning \$60,000 a year.

That's when he went into business for himself. He now runs his own consulting company with a staff of four and a roster of high-end clients, including three banks and two U.S. airlines. His specialty is collecting on large commercial debts—\$300,000 or more. Single and 30, he drives a Porsche, has a paid-off home north of the city and a luxury apartment close to downtown. Last year, he took home \$280,000. He expects to retire in three years.

Scarcely in all this, there has to be a lesson.



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Business NOTES

BRISERY BREAKTHROUGH

After years of negotiations, Canada and 28 other industrialized countries agreed on a plan to combat business bribery of foreign public officials. Under the pact, the 30 nations that make up the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development have agreed to introduce legislation by April 1, 1996, to make bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions a crime.

TEE-COMM'S TROUBLES

The company that launched Canada's first dish-to-home satellite TV service has been gashed into receivership by its main lender, the Bank of Montreal. Milton, Ont.-based Tee-Comm Electronics Inc. launched AlphaStar Canada two months ago and now has 6,000 subscribers. The company says it will continue to operate as it searches for a new owner.

SMART-CARD CONVERTS

Four major companies joined the growing list of Canadian financial institutions that are planning to issue Monex smart cards, a form of electronic cash. Bank of Montreal, Canada Trust, Bankville Bank of Canada and Le Mouvement des caisses Desjardins are the latest to sign on, joining the Royal Bank, CIBC and Hongkong Bank of Canada. The Monex system is currently being tested in Guelph, Ont. The timing of a national roll-out has not been announced.

TOBACCO AD FIGHT

The European Commission is renewing efforts to introduce a European Union-wide ban on tobacco advertising. The move follows an announcement by Britain's new Labour government that it stands to ban tobacco advertising and prohibit cigarette makers from sponsoring sports events. Canadian legislators passed a similar law in April.

CANADA HIGHLY RATED

Canada's economy is the fourth most competitive in the world, according to a survey by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum. Singapore was at the top of the list, followed by Hong Kong and the United States. Canada was in eighth place in a similar 1996 survey, but finished higher this year largely because of the improved state of government finances.

Junior mining's latest black eye



Agree on embarrassing admission

It was another in a recent string of embarrassing revelations for Canada's junior-mining sector. Borrowing a phrase that still rings loudly in the ears of many British Columbia, Delgates Mining Corp. of Vancouver announced that independent testing had revealed "insignificant gold" at the company's Nevada exploration project. Earlier this year, a company spokesman said the site harbored up to five million ounces of gold.

worth \$2.5 billion at current prices. Charles Agre, the company's chairman and president, blamed an unnamed, outside testing laboratory for providing false data.

Several National Hockey League players were named the highest earners from the season. They included Grant Fuhr and Al MacIsaac of

the St. Louis Blues, each of whom invested between \$250,000 and \$300,000. St. Louis forward Geoff Courville is a member of Delgates's board of directors. The industry's latest indiscretion surfaced only days after Golden Rule Resources Ltd. of Calgary disclosed that its property in Ghana contains much less gold than previously announced. Meanwhile, John Felderhof, the former chief geologist of Brix Minerals Ltd., agreed to return an award given to him in March by the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. Felderhof and other Brix officials are the targets of at least eight class-action suits launched by Brix's shareholders. The latest suit, filed in Vancouver, was the first to name the Toronto Stock Exchange as a defendant.

Retail growth spurt

While Eaton's struggles to stay in business, Archival Hudson's Bay Co. is plotting an expansion drive. Outgoing president George Kosch says he will ask his company's board to approve the purchase of 36 of 123 Kmart stores and possibly 10 Eaton's outlets. The company, which owns the Bay and Zellers divisions, has budgeted \$260 million this year for new stores, store reconfigurations

and rebrandings, and new technology. Meanwhile, Eaton's and its employees reached a deal allowing the company to option off more than a third of the \$890-million surplus in pension fund. The rest will remain in the fund or be distributed among workers. Eaton's, which is restructuring under bankruptcy protection and preparing to close as many as 31 of 86 stores, says it will use the bulk of the pension surplus to strengthen its finances.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

North American stock markets roared to record highs after the U.S. Federal Reserve, defying expectations, decided not to raise interest rates. The Fed is counting on an economic slowdown to stem inflationary pressures, although most investors are braced for a rate hike this summer.

ECONOMIC GROWTH
Annual increase in Canadian gross domestic product



There's a lot of uncertainty about these days. I believe we may well be at the beginning of a period not unlike the 1950s and '60s in Canada—a period of huge change but also a period of great economic advances and increased standards of living. —Gordon Thiessen

"Ontario's economy will post the fastest growth in the country in 1997. All the ingredients for a strong pickup in consumer spending are now combined: better employment growth, improving consumer confidence, personal income tax cuts, modest wage increases and low interest rates." —Conference Board of Canada



Serles, just before he died, the market gave sounded a warning

Cautionary tales

Just as the 1970s hosted the gold bubble and the 1980s the real estate bubble, this decade—the 1990s—will be known in financial history as the mutual fund bubble. So wrote Roy Street in his book *Andrew Serles in the marketplace*, published just before he died at heart failure in April at age 63.

His book, published this month by Key Porter, paints an overwhelmingly pessimistic picture for Canadian investors—beginning



Making allowances

Stressed-out adults aren't the only ones having a hard time in the land, even 1990s. Judging by the results of a recent poll by Ipsos Research (Research Group Ltd., the economic times are tough for children, too. The survey, for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, found that 85 per cent of parents believe the best way to teach children about money is to pay them an allowance on a regular basis. The bad news for kids? Only 41 per cent of the parents who took part in the survey actually do so.

KIDS AND CASH

Average weekly allowance per child, by age:



Source: Ipsos Research Group Ltd. for CIBC

the long run, but can prove just as effective—if less culpable for children—as a regular allowance.

with the title, *Fear, Greed and the End of the Rainbow: Guarding Your Assets in the Coming Bear Market*. The underlying thesis is far from original, the business school of most books written are pressed with similarly apocalyptic forecasts. But unlike most examples of the genre, Serles' book is level-headed and thoroughly researched. He argues that stagnant incomes, rising household debts and a move to higher interest rates will trigger a global stock market collapse, with major quarter declines plunging to 30 per cent at current levels. Unfortunately, Serles does not say when the cataclysm will occur. His message is that investors who hang their heads in the current bull market are taking too big a risk better to pull out of stocks now and wait for the buying opportunities that will present themselves when the bear finally strikes.

Should investors heed his advice? During his own career as Bay Street, Serles was wrong as often as he was right. At the very least, however, his warnings can serve as a useful corrective for investors with high hopes and short memories.

FORECAST: **MUTUAL FUNDS** Canadians will invest another \$50 billion in mutual funds by the end of the 1997 fiscal year, bringing the total to \$230 billion, financial services consultant Sun Richards predicts. He says the market will continue to be dominated by Canadian stock funds "until we see another market correction, which will probably occur as a result of interest rate hikes later this year."

Health and wealth

Physicians may be among the best-paid Canadians, but they are notoriously bad investors, says Terry Quinn, a neurologist in Vernon, B.C., and author of *Philosophies for Wealth: Financial Planning for the Health Care Professional*. Quinn's book covers a wide range of topics of interest to high-income earners, including RRSPs, the stock market, tax shelters and estate planning. The book is distributed by Crowe-Rock Publishing.

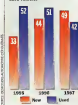
Shorter work week?

Only six per cent of Canadian workers would welcome a cut in pay in a trade-off for fewer hours on the job, a Statistics Canada study shows. The agency surveyed 20,000 men and women and found that 67 per cent are satisfied with their current work hours, while 27 per cent would actually prefer to work longer hours for more pay.

That new-car smell

The improving economy seems to be having an impact on Canadians' car-buying habits. A poll by DoItRovers Automotive Consultants found that 49 per cent of consumers plan to buy or lease a new car when they shop for their next vehicle. Forty-two per cent will be in the market for a used car with a nine per cent are undecided. In two earlier surveys, most respondents said they planned to buy used vehicles.

Percentage of consumers who plan to buy or lease a new or used vehicle.



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Peter C. Newman

Jean Charest: savoring the campaign spotlight

Political momentum can be measured in various ways. When I dropped by for a chat with Jean Charest, the only star of this pathetic election, at Vancouver's Sun Life Place Hotel last week, the first thing I noticed was the Mounties. At the site of the campaign, the Tory leader had been besieged by bodyguards morning to late, who seemed sleepy, as if they were guarding 38 Sussex Drive. But as voting day approaches and Charest has started attracting crowds of enthusiastic well-wishers and hecklers, a fresh squad of Redcoats has appeared, bristled and bushy-tailed, who pranced around him like vipers: hunters guarding some great trophy.

Charest himself seems unaffected by all the hubbub, except to boast, as he did when we met. This may to spot these days, there are protesters wherever I go. Even at rallies of the other candidates, what you hear about is Jean Charest. They're all preoccupied with me."

That's a welcome sign for a political leader who has spent most of the past four years without a party, a platform or a following. The reason for the dramatic turnaround is mostly Charest's ability, since among the party leaders, to sound as if he cares about his country. It's a refreshing contrast to Jean Chrétien, who keeps pretending he is above the fray, or Preston Manning, who won't stop whining about how he lost all the world's wonders.

Charest is championing a set of policies that achieve a makeshift truce between the mild political left and the political right, totally pleasing neither but just enough to entice them into voting PC. In other words, it's the perfect Canadian political platform.

The Tory leader's appeal is limited mainly by time. In the great week of the election that if he had the two extra weeks that used to be part of the historic campaign cycle, Charest's momentum might have propelled him into having a real shot at power. As things stand, he has at the very least saved the Progressive Conservative Party from oblivion and rescued it from the legacy of the Mulroney years. "There's a whole new attitude that governments have to bring to this issue," Charest says of political patronage, which so plagued the Mulroney record. "As prime minister, I would be extremely cautious how we approach appointments, all of which would be reviewed by parliamentary committees."

Instead of disappointing, either by being swallowed by Reform or suffering yet another humiliation at the polls, the Tories will emerge on June 2 as a respectable political force, in place to form the government in the 2001 election.

The transformation of the man himself is startling. Few know Charest for at least a decade and half on the spot to be a bit of a dreamer, charming but unfocused, watching the world go by

without trying to grab a piece of it. This campaign changed all that.

Even the cadence of his speech is different. He's wide awake now, tough-minded, and speaks with the newly gained authority of being in touch with his inner self. His role model is Teddy Roosevelt, the muckraker's U.S. president who talked about the White House in terms of having his own bulldog pup to growl to the country from "What I like about him most," says Charest, "was his sense of freedom. He felt he could do just about anything, and went ahead and did it."

Defining the election agenda in terms of his personal leadership abilities is the ultimate test of Charest's newly found self-confidence. As a result, last week's endorsements by Alberta Premier Ralph Klein, Ontario Finance Minister Ernie Eves and Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon seemed more like exchanges of political courtesies than the obligatory, cordoned blessings they might have been a few weeks earlier.

Charest's goal is to form the next government, and he even told me whom he plans to include in his cabinet, but he would probably be satisfied to lead the opposition. The Tories' main problem is that they haven't yet made a breakthrough in Ontario. The province's ideological split is running at its usual one-third or more of conservative voters, but this time they're split between the Conservatives and Reformers. "There isn't the angst in Ontario there was in 1995," Charest told me. "We are moving and in the right direction, but because we're moving so much faster in most of the other parts of the country, it gives the impression that we are lagging badly behind in Ontario, and we're not."

It's in Quebec that the most dramatic turnaround has taken hold. Gilles Duceppe, once called the soft nationalist who Charest last week, bludgeoned the PQ into as hard-core separatist stronghold, which ought not to yield them more than 33 seats, down from the 54 they won in 1993. Whether these overtime separatists will cast their ballots for Charest and switch back to Bouchard in the Quebec referendum to follow will depend on the Conservative leader's ability to hold their loyalty. And that's why he has made the granting of "distinct society" status to Quebec his main or break issue.

"This," he insists "has never been about special status or privileges or sending in more money to Quebec. It's a question of identity and dignity, of recognizing its unique language, system of laws and culture. It may be symbolic, but it's also essential. Don't forget that since the demise of March Lake, Quebecers voted against Charlottetown, they voted in the Bloc, put the PQ into power, and the majority of French-speaking Quebecers went to the Yes side in the referendum. Now, there seems to be a majority of people there ready to sign on to a Canadian agenda."

That's not only great news for Jean Charest, but for Canada.

ACTION 21

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Our environmental problems are so large they sometimes seem insurmountable. But through thousands of individual actions, ranging from active transportation to cleaning up a wildlife nesting site, we can find solutions. Environment Canada's Action 21 program provides funding to groups working together to make their communities more sustainable. With support from Action 21, hundreds of Canadians across the country have donated their time, skills and resources to projects that reduce air pollution and toxic substances, conserve and rehabilitate natural areas, and protect biodiversity. In this supplement, we honor a few of the individuals and organizations that we have supported and all those who have collaborated with them.



Manitoba Toll Girls Prayers Preserve

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MESSAGE FROM ENVIRONMENT CANADA

From modest neighborhood projects to big programs engaging entire communities, Canada is fortunate to have many people taking action on environmental issues. As we celebrate Environment Week, June 1 to 7, we also celebrate the efforts Canadians make every day for a cleaner and healthier environment. Local heroes for the environment can be a few people gathering for a Saturday morning riverbank cleanup, a young person using nature day camps to teach children about health and the environment, or a local organisation working to minimize the impact of automobiles.

Action 21 is a \$10 million program which provides community funding to non-governmental groups to undertake environmental projects. The program also creates public awareness on issues such as toxic substances, biodiversity and air quality.

Under the funding component of Action 21, eligible projects must have matching funding or in-kind support from other sponsors, must respond to community needs and must demonstrate measurable environmental benefits. Funding deadlines for Action 21 are the first of May, October and February. Over 375 projects have been supported to date in the program.

Please take a few minutes to read about some of the innovative and exciting projects under way by people in neighborhoods just like yours, with support from Action 21.

RENOIT'S COVE RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM [M.D.]

When Patrick Rumbolt, Chief of the Benoit's Cove Indian Band near Garner Brook, N.B., died suddenly, his band of directors



[M.D.]

was left with a lot of dreams he had been pursuing. One was to clear local streams of the garbage, lumbering debris and old burner stoves that had sited up the stream spawning beds. "As aboriginal people we do fish for food," says Colleen Rumbolt, Patrick's sister and the current chief. "But we haven't been able to fish for several years."

Rumbolt and her directors poured their energies into restoring Patrick's dream. With local unemployment high, they had no problem finding workers — 140 people applied for four positions the first summer. The next summer, they were able to hire eight. But others in the community pitched in for free, hauling out old bathtubs and car parts. "They'd come along and say, 'What'd do the best of that?' And before you knew it, they're in the river helping out," says Rumbolt.

The band is planning a study this summer to confirm the project is working. But already locals are reporting an increase in salmon. For now, some of the streams must remain closed until fish stocks recover, but eventually the band hopes there will be enough salmon for everyone, with opportunities in the long term for fish farming and sport fishing. "It means a lot to the community," says Rumbolt. "We're trying to get back out way of life. We were part of the problem and we're hoping to be part of the solution."

NORTH QUEEN'S WILDLIFE PROJECT [P.E.I.]

There isn't much Red Duplax has done as creator and co-ordinator of the North Queen's Wildlife Project. Soon after graduating in forestry, Duplax signed on with the North Queen's Wildlife Federation, which was concerned about the decline in the trout population. "We have such intensive agriculture in P.E.I. that every watershed has been silted up," says Duplax. "Not to mention bacterial and chemical pollution." Duplax successfully persuaded a long-shuttered trout farm and started a release program. "After that, I had the green light to do anything else I could think of."

And he did. But while Duplax has enormous energy, he couldn't do all the work himself. One of his goals was to provide jobs for young people who couldn't find work. Together they worked with cattle herders to prevent stream pollution; cleaned up shorelines and silted waterways; restored nesting grounds; ran a recycling program; planted trees; started a biodiversity project; published a bi-monthly newsletter; founded five tree nurseries, and created a Web page. Through the various projects, the young people learned writing, computer and forestry skills, says Duplax, "so they get really good experience."

While Duplax was named Conservationist of the Year for his efforts by the R.E.L. Wildlife Federation, he wonders whether island people recognize the seriousness of the



[P.E.I.]

Photo: Barbara Coulton



(Nova Scotia)

province's environmental problems. But he has no doubts about his own community. "I know going in that this project would succeed or fail based on how the community responded. Everyone has contributed, whether financially or with equipment or just permission to work their land."

OASIS NATURE DAY CAMPS (Nova Scotia)

Parents whose children suddenly started talking about the "Erl Bootblack" must have wondered when this character came from. In fact, the environmental bad guy is the invention of psychology graduate Bryce Hartnell. Hartnell was producing his job prospects when he came up with the idea of teaching kids environmental lessons through a series of magical games. In just three years, Hartnell's initial summer pilot has grown to a group of summer day camps held in eight Nova Scotia communities, plus a March Break version and a Web site. Hundreds of kids from age 12 to have tried to defeat Bootblack and other villains through activities such as recycling, composting, turning off lights, wearing sunscreen and joining in outdoor games.

Parents are impressed: 90 per cent said they thought their kids would continue doing most or all of what they had learned. Hartnell remembers one child who asked him, "Do you think it would weaken Bootblack if we cleaned up the stream?" When Hartnell agreed, the child went on to organize a clean-up team. "It really shows how the games empower the children to feel they can do something."

At the same time, the award-winning program provided full-time work for Hartnell and summer jobs and training for 30 to 20 students every summer. "There are a lot of good students out there who are graduating or about to graduate and don't have the experience to get a job. We're trying to give these students an extra boost." The camps are supported by volunteers and funding from the communities and Hartnell predicts they will soon be self-sustaining. He hopes to expand across the country over the next five years.

EMISSIONS IMPOSSIBLE (Saint John, N.B.)

Pride, defiance, friendly rivalry — the New Brunswick Lung Association decided to call on strong emotions to get Saint John's citizens excited about the problem of car exhaust and its effects on human health. In Fredericton, 510 citizens had voluntarily brought their cars in for emissions testing. Now the Lung Association, along with other community organizations and service centre sponsors, challenged Saint John to beat the record of their longtime rival.

Participants in the "Emissions Impossible" contest brought their cars to a local mall. "Everyone was very excited about the whole thing and cars were just streaming through," says Kenneth Maybin, executive director of the association. As each car passed through, volunteer mechanics from local service stations tested the cars. If the car failed, mechanics explained the problem and how it could be fixed. "It's one

case, a fellow who failed went immediately to a garage and had it fixed and came back through and passed the test," recalls Alison Howells, environmental programs co-ordinator for the association.

"Traditionally, the people who go for emissions testing are already very environmentally aware," says Howells. But by emphasizing how drivers could save money if their cars were working properly, changing no fee and promising not to fine cars that failed, the association hoped to reach beyond the converted. "We did have one of the worst-polluting cars ever tested in the country. So we weren't just getting clean cars. Even those who were not real 'green consumers' got involved." And best of all, Saint John did beat their rival, with 570 vehicles tested.

SOFTSHELL TURTLE RECOVERY PLAN (London, Ont.)

"Buckeye," "leather-backed" and "pig-nosed rubber-back" — the odd-looking softshell turtles have many nicknames. Softshells have always been hard to spot because they spend most of their time hiding in the mud. But in recent years, changes to the Thames and St. Clair rivers in southwestern Ontario have destroyed their habitat, making them rarer than ever.

So three years ago, Dave Martin, environmental education co-ordinator at the Upper Thames Conservation Authority, decided to hire two students to survey the turtles. The students have learned how many turtles are still living in the rivers, the places where they live and nest, and how to protect those areas. Boy Scouts have hauled piles of silt to restore nesting areas, and hundreds of people have called to report turtle sightings. In the coming year, volunteers who have turtles on their land will learn how to defend nests from hungry raccoons.

Much of the project's support has come from the 107-year-old McEwen Field Naturalists Club. The turtles are a perfect focus for environmental education, says president Mary Lynn Metrus, because "they're very rare in Canada and we have them right here in the London area."

Along the way, the turtles have changed human lives. One of the original students, Michelle Fletcher, is now on staff at the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, where she loves uncovering for hours in bushes to discover when the shy softshells lay their eggs. "It's no longer a job for her," laughs Dave Martin, now a consultant. "It's a life-long commitment."

ACTION ST-HENRI (St-Henri, Que.)

Immanuel Alla-kinda lives on the edge of a no man's land. Every day, he and his neighbours in St-Henri, a district in the southwest of Montreal, experience the noise and dust of the railroad line that bisects their community.

"We couldn't do anything about this," says Alla-kinda, a specialist in environmental crimes and the founder and director of Action St-Henri, a nonprofit community organization dedicated to improving the environment. "Trains will continue to pass through here. But we could do a lot to make the area more beautiful and the railroad tracks acceptable to the people living here."

Alla-kinda plans to transform the no man's land into a green corridor. Landscape architects have already drawn up plans, and in May, Alla-kinda and his team will install some 10,000 plants of the lawn, between St-Anthony and Carlton Streets. Community residents will plant more than 150 trees and 350 shrubs. "It will be like a vegetation screen. This will improve the environment,

since small animals will come back to live there and grass will grow again. It will be better for our health, since the vegetation will filter the dust, and the trees will hide the railroad line and enhance the architectural elements of the district."

Alla-kinda also wants to emphasize who is responsible for the transformation. So in June, he will set up an exhibition of photographs of residents planting their trees and shrubs. "They will see that they're the ones who've created this change."

THE TALL GRASS PRAIRIE PRESERVE (Gardenton, Man.)

If you're near the town of Gardenton, Manitoba, and you see the prairie on fire, don't be concerned. It's just the local community trying to preserve a precious treasure — one of the remaining pockets of the tall grass prairie that once covered the Red River Valley.

Identified by the Manitoba Naturalists Society in the late 1960s, this 4,000-hectare area has never been cultivated because of "sloughing sherry" — the local Ukrainian settlement's name for large boulders. Now a number of organizations, including a local advisory committee, work together to maintain this unique ecosystem and the rare species that inhabit it. The area "just calls out for action," says Bob Jones, chairman of the management committee of the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve, "because we have so little of it left and



(London, Ont.)



(St-Henri, Que.)



(Gardenton, Man.)

it contains probably 40 per cent of the original species that occurred in the tall grass prairie. It represents genetic stock we cannot replace." Many of the species may have medicinal or agricultural use and are important to understanding why prairie soil is so fertile.

The local community has responded enthusiastically, helping to defend the native plant species against other invading plants through mowing, burning and selective cattle grazing. And at last year's Prairie Days Festival, they opened a one-and-a-half-kilometre interpretive trail to take visitors through part of the Preserve. Eventually, the community hopes to take over the entire responsibility for running and maintaining the Preserve. People like John Thielke, a local resident who now manages the Preserve, believe that, combined with local area historical sites, it also has tourism potential. "It sure gives a boost to the community."

OXBOW REHABILITATION [Lumsden, Sask.]

In 1996, two people in Lumsden, Sask., were asking the same question — why does the oxbow stink? One was a high-school student who cross-country skied along the Qu'Appelle River, the other a member of the local Community Environmental Leaders committee who played baseball beside the meadow bend. Together they inspired Rhonda Phillips, an environmental-education specialist, to make clearing up the oxbow a project for Lumsden High School students and the community.

In a science fair project the student demonstrated that high levels of phosphate and nitrate were causing the oxbow's stink. "When we took that data to the town council we had no problems getting support from them or from other partners," says Rhonda Phillips. The solution was to get a local contractor to install a solar pump to get more oxygen into the oxbow and to plant cattails to reduce the phosphate levels.

Phillips had an informed and eager source of labor — her students. After studying the problem, in a single day, the students transported about 2,000 cattails, cleaned up the local park, planted slough grass and 600 trees to provide wildlife habitat, and put up netting beacons for wood ducks.

Phosphate levels in the oxbow have now dropped for their next project, the students will plant 10,000 trees to deal with wind problems. From now on, says Phillips, "I'll teach environmental education through action. It's as awful but more effective and kids love doing it. And now you're done a successful project, you just have to tell the community what you need and it's there."

SMOG-FREE EDMONTON [Edmonton, Alta.]

Edmonton may not be as big a city as Vancouver or Toronto, but it does have a smog problem. City officials, community organizers and environmentalists wanted to start raising public awareness before car emissions began having a more significant effect on public health. That's why the Alberta Lung Association decided to organize a campaign for the city last fall called "SMOG FREE — Save Money on Gas From Reduced Exhaust Emissions."

Drivers could go to any of 54 service centres for a free emissions test. They received a copy of test results, information about keeping their cars running efficiently and a \$10 discount coupon for any emissions-reducing work valued at \$50 or more. While certainly some drivers improved the quality of their exhaust, "The goal was as much to engage the public in learning about air quality," says Catherine Good, director of health initiatives for the Lung Association.

How successful was the campaign? Good says she had more than 2,540 calls to the campaign's information line in three months, and most of the service centres signed up for a second campaign this spring. The campaign has stimulated a public discussion about how to cope with emissions as Edmonton grows, and service centres are promoting emissions testing year-round. "We've got a growing consumer awareness and a better-informed public," says Good.

LIFEPONT FLOTILLA [Vancouver, B.C.]

Jeff Gibbs wasn't the least bit interested in nature till he took a school sailing trip up the coast of British Columbia. "It was an epiphany for me when I realized I was part of the cycle of life," he recalls.

Since then, Gibbs has founded the Environmental Youth Alliance, escorted trekkers from the Bernese Alps forest to the United Nations, worked with some of the world's leading environmentalists and been named to the UN's Global 500 Honor Roll for Environmental Achievement. But when he tried to think of a way of engaging young people in nature, he returned to his first experience. What emerged was the Lifepoint Flotilla — the last project for Leadership Institute for Earth (LIFE), an environmental education program for youth started in 1985. It is a seven-day voyage of discovery through 3 C's Gulf Islands. Travelling in 14 sailing ships, more than 200 teenagers work with mentors involved in scientific and environmental fields, as well as sea men the ship.

While some are already active in environmental projects, for many, the voyage is their first significant encounter with nature.



"It can be a rite of passage for young people. What we hope they gain is a sense that we are all part of a complex web of life and that we need to carefully design our human systems — our economic and social systems — in partnership with nature," says Gibbs.

In order to earn their passage, students are also expected to get involved in their community when they return home. "We often hear from parents that their sons and daughters have become much more responsible and are thinking of the world beyond themselves."

CLEAN AIR VEHICLES . . . NOW! [Victoria, B.C.]

There is something Randy Holmgvist always notices when he takes his family to the beach on Vancouver Island. "When you look over to the mainland, you tend to be able to see the buildings of Vancouver," he says. "Now it's just a big green haze as the horizon."

At least part of the reason for southern British Columbia's air quality problem is an exhaust. It also has the ideal, moderate climate for electric vehicles. So in 1996, with the help of the Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre (VIATC), Holmgvist decided to promote electric vehicles by offering to loan an electric van or pickup to companies with large fleets of vehicles. "The response was very impressive," recalls Holmgvist.

Survey results show that companies that participated are now much more interested in electric vehicles and — perhaps more importantly — air quality issues. Since Holmgvist has a


part-time business converting regular cars to electric, it would be nice to get some customers from the project. But that's not the primary goal. "We're looking for a significant change in corporations' views on the environment, to make them aware of how they're contributing to pollution."

Meanwhile, with the help of the Vancouver Electric Car Club, Holmgvist is also running demonstrations that give the public a chance to drive an electric car. Holmgvist is hopeful that both corporations and individuals will start converting to electric. "It's getting pretty ugly out there and something has to be done about it. It's not just to compare the world, but I'd like to make a difference." ■

For more information about Action 21 and how to develop a project proposal, call Action 21 at Environment Canada's office nearest you at:

Atlantic: 1-800-663-5755
 Quebec: 1-800-463-4311
 Ontario: 1-800-851-7765
 Manitoba and Saskatchewan: 1-800-665-7135
 Alberta and NWT: 1-800-567-1520
 Pacific and Yukon: 1-800-957-7775

or visit the Action 21 home page on Environment Canada's Web site: The Green Line at <http://www.ec.gc.ca/action21/index.html>.

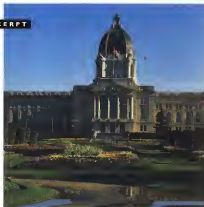
 Environment Canada

On the road again

A columnist goes in search of his father's legacy

THE MACLEAN'S EXCERPT

Last summer, Charles Gordon, a columnist for Maclean's and the Ottawa Citizen, and his wife, Nancy, did what many Canadians dream of doing: they drove overland Canada. They drove from Ottawa to Newfoundland, then rounded west across the country to Vancouver Island and back across the top of the Prairies to Ontario. In three months, they covered 24,800 km (and got lost a number of times). Along the way, they visited the home of Louis-Philippe de la Rivière, Prince Edward Island, caught a ball game at the Big O in Montreal, found the place where Canada's leading socialist, including Charles's father, King Gordon, signed the Regina Manifesto in 1933, and explored a submarine in the West Edmonton Mall. Their odyssey is described in *The Canada Trip*, published this week by McClelland & Stewart. The following excerpt is from chapter titled "Only in Saskatchewan" and "Follow the Yellowhead Road."



Legislature in Regina: not enough marble in the world to replace what we have here

Today we have both a deadline and a mission. The deadline is to be in Gull Lake, Sask., in time for dinner. That's about a three-hour drive away. My mission is to find the Regina Manifesto. I knew it was signed here in Regina in 1933 at the founding convention of the CCF (not that where I have searched all the books I can find on the subject. None of them says where the Regina convention was held. I figure we have about four hours to find the Regina Manifesto before we have to hit the road for Gull Lake.

The Regina Manifesto has a connection to Lake of the Woods at Kenora, Ontario. The son of Charles Gordon, told it, his son Eugene Forsey and some others, perhaps Joe Parkinson, were driving to Regina for the convention and stopped at the (Gordon family) hotel. They had the Manifesto with them, which had been written by Frank Underhill. Upon looking it over, they decided it needed a punchier ending. "Slow about it," one of them said. "No CCF government will rest content until it has enfolded capitalists and put into operation the full programme of socialist planning which will lead to the establishment in Canada of the Cooperative Commonwealth." Great, they all agreed, and in it went, the phrase that would bind the party forever, as a symbol of its radicalism and scary intentions.

Whether the story is true or not, I'm fond of it. We began by driving to Regina's Wascana Centre, the huge park south of the downtown area. The park is vast and impressive. It contains

the Saskatchewan legislative building, the University of Regina, the Modem Art Gallery, the DeWolfe House, and much more. There is a lake that follows a bridge. Sarah Binko, who might have been away from Wilfred a bit long at this point, she called "Wascana Lake" a "nice little pond. I could spit across it." But it looks like to us, as do the trees around it. The view from the legislature steps, where we stand, is of a forested garden and bridge, to a lake and across it to downtown and its brick towers.

The tour guide tells us that the legislative building is the largest in the country. Saskatchewan, like Manitoba, thought it would be a much bigger province than it turned out to be. This building is very much on the Manitoba model: lots of marble, a rotunda with balustrade. The marble comes from Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Quebec and Cyprus. "There's not enough marble in the world to replace what we have here," he says.

We go into the library, which was once the legislative chamber, and I see my chance to find the Regina Manifesto. The guide is patient while I make my inquiry. The librarian does not ask me for my ID, or tell me to fill out this form or come back tomorrow. She just tries to answer my question. Not only does she not think I'm crazy, she knows where to find the Regina Manifesto. Nicely, on the Internet. The Manifesto, as we said just the other day, is now online. She calls it up on her computer. There it is, but not

even the Internet can tell us exactly where in Regina it was signed.

There is some consultation with other librarians, all of whom seem rather stumped by the challenge. How usually they suggest I go downtown to Tommy Douglas House, which is the headquarters of the NDP, successor to the CCF.

Good.

The tour continues. It is somehow incongruous to see all this grandeur, all this marble, in what we often think of Canada's most unassuming province. The guide blames Saskatchewan's first premier, Thomas Walter Scott. One of the things he did was change the building's original brick design to red brick. Another thing he did was put a red carpet in the legislative chamber, even though red is the traditional color of upper houses, because he decided that he was going to make his chamber better than any other lower house in Canada, "according to the state."

The building departs from tradition in many ways. There is a statue of John Diefenbaker in the rotunda, even though he never held provincial office. His nose is shorter than the rest of his and the guide explains that this is because he was polished with brass cleaner even though he is a nose. After the nose, the dresser realized a mistake had been made and switched to something else. Diefenbaker, of course, was a politician who kept his nose clean anyway.

Just inside the door at Tommy Douglas House is a statue of Douglas done by Joe Fafard, which is much smaller than, which was a change from \$19.95, a towel for \$1, a yellow under tube for \$5. You can also go on a water slide here or a bumper jump. What I find funny about it is not the fact that there is a water pool in a shopping centre but that people are sitting around outside it, in bathing suits on lounge chairs, reading, as if on a day at the beach. Do they know that those are electric lights overhead, that they are indoors?

There is only one way to have a unique West Edmonton Mall experience. I must ride the submarine. Names, somehow descending to you, are able to find one spaceship to the westbound, stand in line for the next trip, which I'm told will be 10 minutes and I'm supposed to be there 10 minutes early. How do you know why? Any way, there I stand, realizing that I am sitting



The submarine dock: somewhere to put things they don't want to move out

A voyage with Capt. Susan

In Edmonton, the Gordons stop at a dubious shopping mall

West Edmonton Mall tries hard to become more human. But it can't, at the same time, abandon its pre-war goal, which is to become more. More. It is in this context that I assess the fact that a replica of Christopher Columbus's ship, the Santa Maria, is in a big pool, along with some dolphins and a submarine. People are standing watching this, and why not?

There is more here, to be sure. We walk by the wave pool and look in through a window. It is apparently the World's Largest Indoor Wave Pool (this is the world's largest indoor wave pool, not the ocean). There is a change room-downstairs and a complete lot of things you can rent, in order to make the water pool experience in the shopping centre more meaningful, such as a family cabaret for \$19.95, a towel for \$1, a yellow under tube for \$5. You can also go on a water slide here or a bumper jump. What I find funny about it is not the fact that there is a water pool in a shopping centre but that people are sitting around outside it, in bathing suits on lounge chairs, reading, as if on a day at the beach. Do they know that those are electric lights overhead, that they are indoors?

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right myself up for the ultimate humiliation—namely, to be seen by someone I know, standing in line to ride a submarine in a shopping centre. There is a way that I can avoid it. I'm doing something else. I'm lined up on a gangplank kind of thing and the submarine is coming in for a landing. I can see it, its top at least a inch below the surface of the water. What would I say if I were to be spotted? "Oh, hi. Did you know that this is the absolutely best place, absolutely, to hear the Perseus pan flute band?"

Before we depart, our captain, Susan, describes the submarine's safety features. "Although we are in a mall, we are governed under the laws of the Canadian coast guard," she says. There are life jackets, fire extinguishers, a two-way radio ("Can you describe your exact position?"). West Edmonton Mall? "Yes and fuses. Then we are off, on a 20-minute odyssey, or whatever you call it in a mall. The submarine takes us past tanks of Hawaiian, then Australian, then Atlantic fish, then a tank with many baby sharks in it, then Atlantic fish. It is a kind of aquatic version of Michael's vision we are being exposed to here. We see a giant shark and then, as we continue slowly around the track, a replica of a 5-m white shark, then the side of the Santa Maria, then a mock-up of a submarine like ours being attacked by a giant squid. I completely forget my claustrophobia. There we see a representation of the Last Dinosaur of Atlantis, the representation consisting of some broken statues. This gives me a sudden flash of insight into decision-making at the mall: if they don't know what to do with something but don't want to throw it out, they can dump it into the pool and let the people look at it from the submarine."

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Edited by
MARGARET WICKENS

A \$30-million inheritance

When talent agent **Paul Vincent** died last month, the singer from St-Basile, N.B., was an unknown. Under Vincent's direction—and with help from the many friends Vincent made in the music industry during a 10-year career as an entertainer and personality—Vincent soon emerged as a superstar in Quebec and Europe whose albums have earned more than \$100 million. "Paul created *Roch* from A to Z," says **Hicky Edwards**, a booking agency magnate and Vincent's closest friend.

"Roch" was the only thing he loved life! And when Vincent died on May 7 in Montreal, he reportedly left his entire estate to the singer. As a result, Vincent stands to inherit as much as \$30 million, plus apartments, property in New Brunswick, and a luxury boat. Vincent's death from an apparent drug overdose came less than a month after he pleaded guilty to possessing cocaine and hashish. The charges stemmed from an April, 1993, raid on his apartment by Revenue Canada—after Vincent's sister, **Denise**, tipped the federal agency that her brother had claimed more than \$60,000 in illegal drug purchases as business expenses. That may help explain why Vincent left nothing to his family. As for bequeathing it all to Vincent, Denise says that the two had a long-standing written agreement that the first to die would leave everything to the other. **Ben Kohn**, another well-known Montreal talent manager whose clients include **Pewee Galante** and **Michael Pugliese**, said that he has never heard of such an arrangement between an agent and client. But, he added, "I've been in this business 40 years, and all I can say is nothing surprises me."



Vincent: a pact to leave everything to each other

Painful times for a celebrity couple

They had it all—money, fame, two beautiful children! And a seaside mansion in Connecticut. And for several years, former NFL star and ABC *Monday Night Football* commentator **Frank Gifford**, 66, and his 43-year-old third wife, **Kathie Lee**, co-host of the ABC morning show *Live!* with **Rogi and Kathie Lee**, also seemed to have an idyllic marriage. The couple appeared in a self-help video titled *Grow-*



The Giffords: stormy encounters

ing in *Live!*, in which Kathie Lee described their relationship as "a source of tremendous joy and security." But that image shattered when *The Globe*, a leading supermarket tabloid, reported in mid-May that Gifford had had a recent fling with a 46-year-old married flight attendant, **Suzan Johnson**, at a New York City hotel. The Giffords dismissed the story as a "lust fabrication." And last week, *The Washington Post* reported that the Globe had offered Gifford \$100,000 to lure Gifford into bed. "This experience," declared the Giffords in a statement, "has been as painful for us as it would be for any other couple."

Travels in time

With books such as *Steins, Gorkhans* and *Time Among the Maps* to his credit, **Ronald Wright** has gained a reputation as one of the English language's top travel writers. So it is no surprise that the Port Hope, Ont.-based author's first work of fiction is also a travel story of sorts: time travel. *A Stranger in Britain* is set in the year 2500, where the novel's 19th-century protagonist, **David Lambert**, arrives looking for a cure for Crocutichikabak disease, the so-

called mad-cow disease. Lambert suspects not only that he has it, but that it and similar diseases spread out much of the planet's inhabitants. Wright recalls that when he started writing the novel in 1993, little was known about how strains of such diseases could pass from animals to humans. "I had the horrible experience of seeing things that I thought were wild, surreal, inconceivable start to come true," says Wright. "Suddenly the events came out that mad-cow is ridden as bad as the people who were most passionate about it."

From winner to losers

The hit Canadian TV series *Dockers* is a summer hit, but the show's Gemini Award-winning star, **David Cubitt**, is hardly relaxing. The actor has taken a real-life leap from the lively legacy of Toronto's Bay Street to lovin' *Inevitable* in not just one, but two programs currently in production in Hollywood. In a still-unfired series pilot for CBS, Cubitt portrays, in his words, the



"charming, idiot, petty-crime throwing brother" of a federal investigator played by American actor **David Caruso**. Then, in *Major Dink*, a CBS mini-series to be broadcast next season, Cubitt is "a white-trash serial rapist and pedophile." His unsavory character is pursued by a policeman portrayed by **Michael Mower**, who moved to Hollywood after leaving the NBC crime drama *Law and Order* in 1994. And how would Cubitt juggle two series shot in two different cities if CBS picks up the pilot? He was able to broker a rare agreement with both networks. And add it: Cubitt. "David was very accommodating."

Cubitt: a star of TV's *Dockers* plays *Inevitable* underdog

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SEARLE

Small steps lead to great strides.

At last, the Main Event

The Sunday afternoon flight from Toronto to Houston is just about to pull away from the gate when Donovan Bailey barrels aboard. He events eye contact with other passengers and keeps his sunglasses on as he slips into a seat in Row A. It's a typical club-busy policy by sitting up front and serving other everyone else is seated. Bailey hopes to prevent the flight from turning into a three-hour slog. But it's a thin race the country holds few hitting places for the Orlando, Fla., opener whose dramatic victory in the 100-m dash at the 1996 Summer Olympics was watched by millions at home and billions worldwide. A few passengers approach with stretched pens and magazines to sign, but recognizing that the man sitting next to him is Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Roger Clemens. After that, Bailey—stylishly turned out in a sky-blue four-button sports jacket over a white shirt and jeans—is left alone to mull a habit he cannot manage at his training home in Austin, Texas—perusing Toronto newspapers. It is early May and this is the first he has read about the Main Event and the Federal election. "You never hear much about Canada down there," he says, "except maybe bad weather."

Actually, Bailey can't wait for long. And when a *Mailweek* reporter runs that grating Americanizing-Canada subject, the runner's expression hardens even as he relaxes in the leather comfort of first class, a glass of white wine in hand. It is the subject that got him so stressed at the Atlanta Games, where the big U.S. media outlets ignored the Canadian 4 x 100 relay team prior to the final race. Never mind that the Canadans were ranked No. 1 in the world—the host broadcaster, NBC, quoted an American sportscaster who guaranteed a U.S. victory just before the Canadian run to gold. The more obvious hint in Canadian pride, however, came after Bailey won the 100 m. The same U.S. media then touted American gold medalist Michael Johnson as the World's Fastest Man—a title that traditionally goes to the 100-m sprinter who wins the world's 200-m race. (In 32 seconds, divided into two 100s, but Bailey's just shattered 300 m mark of 1:54.)

Bailey does not discuss Johnson's accomplishments, but he isn't about to hand over his World's Fastest Man crown either. "I'd be a fool to say Michael Johnson is a nobody," Bailey says over dinner on the plane. "That would be stupid. He's a very aggressive competitor, as I am, and he has done a lot. He's a big star. But I'm not one of those guys who kills all the people. I don't need to walk around with bodyguards."

No, Donovan Bailey does not travel with a Johnson-style entourage. But he is a big star nonetheless—and plenty half of a promoter's dream. What if... and so was born the Duo-



One Challenge of Champions, which will be staged at Toronto's SkyDome on June 1. The event features a series of head-to-head competitions between world and Olympic champions' hurdles Gal Davies and Ladislaus Fegyveresi, pole vaulters Olivier Brits and Sergei Bubka, long jumpers Holke Dencker and Jackie Joyner-Kersey, high jumpers Charles Austin and Javier Sotomayor and parajumpers Tony Wapenaar and Neil Palmer that headline act in Johnson versus Bailey in a 150-m match race that splits the difference between their specialties but will not—at least in Bailey's eyes—determine the World's Fastest Man. "If running the 150 was to prove who was the fastest man," he says lightly. "I wouldn't do it."

So why a Bailey dash? Both runners have said they hope their showdown will help raise track-and-field's sagging profile in North America. And both have acknowledged the monetary side: they will each collect \$700,000 just for showing up, while the winners will take home another \$1.4 million. And both want the leapfrog rights, which are not just personal but national—their is no denying that there is something become a Canada-U.S. rivalry, as well. And it will all be settled in a hybrid race that involves hurdles around a 75-m curve and accelerating down a straightaway to the finish line in less than 15 seconds—the winner very much in doubt. "It's going to be a good race," says Bailey's agent, Ray Flynn. "I don't see a Movement by either one."

After the Atlanta Games, at least a dozen promoters tried to put the Bailey-Johnson dash together. Quicker off the mark was Magellan Entertainment Group, run by aggressive sport

start Gaele Briden (page 74). Since the Ottawa-based firm was the price, however, it has not only moved its main offices to Toronto but borrowed the importance in sports by issuing all prepared news releases and holding poorly coordinated media days with the sponsors. Sports parties have also criticized Magellan for turning Johnson and Bailey into Barneys & Bailey. But in a sense, Magellan's style borrows most from boxing promoters like Don King. At the first news conference last November, Briden had the runners pose for a face-to-face stare-down, and company was reluctant to return to the other competitors at the Coliseum. "Maybe we ought to have a weigh-in—get on the scales and fire a few times," Bailey laughs.

joking aside, there is a sense that the two sprinters are not merely striking staged poses. There is a sense that Bailey and Johnson—the Canadian and the American, an unmatched pair of 25-year-olds at the peak of the race running and earning powers—really don't like each other.

In the Maple Leaf corner, wearing the blue warm-up suit and the Day-Glo sneakers, Bailey is beginning his morning workout with coach Dan Phil. Montreal Stadium in Austin is the modern home of the University of Texas Longhorn football team, the place where longtime coach Darrell Royal remains a legend and running back Ray Campbell was once a national hero. Unlike football, track-and-field is not a recognized religion in Texas. "I don't think people even know Donovan's here," says Phil. "We trained here for two weeks prior to the Olympics, but not one single person ever came by."

Bailey insists he is not troubled that he is a lesser known in Texas

and Europe that he is in Austin. Profoundly, he fights for recognition for his Canadian teammates and himself, but personally he revels in hanging out with friends around Austin and playing around town. He is in Austin in his Porsche. After practice, he returns to the house he owns in the hills west of downtown—most notably, it is warm enough to sit out on the terrace, listening to music and sipping the view. "Austin," he says, "would be perfect if it were in Canada."

Both runner and coach say training has gone well, although Bailey was slowed this spring by a stomach Acladia infection. Phil says the longer distance and the unaccustomed pace were not too great. "Donovan runs 150s at just off training for the 100, so he knows how to run the curve," the coach says. Bailey has taken every fourth week off to visit his girlfriend, Michelle Miller, and daughter, three-year-old Adriana, in Orlando, or to follow sponsor commitments and commercial shoots—he has deals with Adidas, Coca-Cola and Air Canada, among others. He has two main goals for the rest of 1997. He wants to beat Johnson, and he wants to set the Canadian 4 x 100m relay team in a world record in the final at the world track and field championships in Athens/August. The current 4 x 100 record is 27.4 seconds but, he says, "I think we are capable of breaking 27.4."

Bailey also hopes the Toronto event will boost a sport that has virtually disappeared from the North American sports landscape in all but Olympic years. "If track is going to compete with all the other entertainment options out there," he says, "this is something we are going to have to do." He admits, however, that he is unsure of the value of the prize-fight package. "I'm definitely not a rabid kind of guy. I don't like to get in someone's face and trash-talk."

Maybe not, but he is not above a bit of needling. When a reporter asked if a match race was a "head game," Bailey replied, "Hi Michael and I am going to get into a little of this, I think I have already won."



In the Stars and Stripes corner, running drills at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Johnson is wearing black Lycra running shorts, white training shoes and a sheen of glossing sweat. He is, in the vernacular, out, his rippling muscles protruding even from a distance. Johnson keeps that distance throughout the week out, staying clear of the host of reporters who have gathered at trackside. He does the same when the group reconvenes for a post-workout scrum. He refuses to enter the press room until a TV camera and all the reporters' chairs are moved well back of his own and. "This would be a good time to have a name of runner," Briden says.

Johnson achieved international recognition running for Baylor University in Waco, Tex. But his golden moment came on the rugged Atlanta night of Aug. 1, 1996, when, in the 200-m Olympic final, he sprinted off the line and left Norville's American Proverbs with behind—setting a new world record of 20.32 seconds. That added laurel to the gold medal he had already won in the 400 m. So when the U.S. media handed him the *World's Fastest Man* title, he said things very much. "I don't ask for it," he says. "But since they gave it to me, I'm not about to give it up without a fight." Johnson is quick to add, however, that neither he nor Bailey will be running their usual races and the fanfare of the outcome, you'll still have someone out there who's going to say some

100

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Maclean's

WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

SPORTS

after he is the fastest man in the world." Johnson will step into the blocks against Bailey as a slight favourite because of the curve in the track and the fact that the distance is shorter than his specialty. In the 200, Johnson usually reaches his maximum speed as he rounds the curve at around 100 m. Bailey, in his 100-m sprint, normally tops out at about 60 m and then tries to maintain the pace through the final 40-m sprinting quadrant as to whether he can keep it up for 50 more in the new event. But Johnson's coach, Clyde Hart, says his pupil's greatest asset is his mental toughness. "He is very focused, very professional," Hart observed while Johnson ran through his drills at SBCU. "As long as I get him ready physically, he'll be fine."

On the track and in front of the camera, Johnson rarely cracks a smile. Aided if he ever expected to make so much money from racing—his annual income from appearance fees and endorsements is \$7 million—he said earlier of being "100" that he'd make this much money doing something, manager or otherwise, because that was his goal. He insists the race against Bailey is strictly business, but there is an edge to his voice as he describes his opponent. He did not, for as a scientist, like Bailey's comment that Americans were "ignorant" of the non-U.S. athletes in Atlanta. "Prior to the Olympics, I had a lot of respect for Donovan as a person and an athlete," he says pointedly. "Now, I still have respect for him as an athlete."

Donovan Bailey seems ready in his final tune-up for Toronto. He sprinted a 100-m victory in 9.66 seconds at the Harry Jerome Track Classic in Barnaby, B.C. "The way we got so impressive that even our nearest competitor, American Leroy Burrell, called Bailey the World's Fastest Man and added that he hopes Bailey beats Johnson for the greater glory of all 100-m runners—a case of sports speciality taking precedence over nationality. "When the big day finally comes, the Toronto race—based on the promoter's style so far—may well begin when a gun in a tower grabs a microphone and bellows "Let's get ready to RUN-FULL!" Not that Bailey would notice anyway. Like Johnson, he has a knack for blocking out distractions—as he did in Atlanta, where the 200-m final was disrupted by three false starts. He will need that focus again in Toronto to take out the home-town fans. "If I ever get into the blocks thinking that all of Canada is watching me and they really, really want to win, then I am going to forget all the little things I need to do to the race to succeed," he says. Instead, he intends to race that burden around. "I think it will be a little scary for Michael," Bailey says shyly. "to walk in and realize he's in my backyard."

On the fast track

The race promoter has ambition to burn

On a Tuesday morning, less than two weeks before Donovan Bailey and Michael Johnson settle into the starting blocks, the cluttered Toronto offices of Magellan Entertainment Group have the nervous buzz of a hospital emergency department. Phones are ringing, fax machines humming and the young men scurrying in and out of meetings look like they are working on too much coffee and too little sleep. In this frantic environment, Magellan's 29-year-old president

Glenn Briden seems to be working for any of his members. But Briden had not given on all these telephone, think positive speeches for nothing. And despite the bad publicity, she went on to meet Toronto businessman Edwin Cogan, who specializes in finding investors for real estate developments and other projects. Cogan told Magellan's Bill Briden that he had a contract with Bailey and Johnson, but could not raise money for the race. He found investors to buy out his backers, added to her staff, and in February named Magellan from Ottawa to its already crowded Bay Street offices. "The whole thing had come unravelled," Cogan says. "They were knocked against the ropes."

Back on her feet, Briden is an expert to dwell on her mistakes. She will talk some about her past, however. A Toronto native, she is the youngest of four children whose father was an apartment building superintendent. After completing high school, she worked briefly repairing houses. She also dabbled in other businesses, and in 1992, declared bankruptcy when one venture left her \$200,000 in debt. Then, she and her musician husband moved to Ottawa, where she started working with Kheja. "It was a really great education," she says. "It taught me to do whatever it takes to make a project successful." As Briden starts the pre-race final race, she still has a long way to go to silence the doubters.



Briden: 'a lot of excitement'

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WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

Health

Herbal clampdown

Alternative medicines face stricter regulation

J oel Thain is furious with Ottawa. An producer and marketing manager for Global Botanical Corporation, a Huron, Ont., firm that produces herbal products, Thain estimates that federal actions on restricting or outlawing natural health remedies will gobble up at least 30 per cent of his company's profits this year. Worried to find that dinner table has gone from Ottawa's Health Protection Branch, the federal bureaucracy that regulates vitamins, minerals and medicinal herbs in Canada, Thain complains that "we're paying these people to bankrupt us. It's infuriating they can do that at a society that values its freedom." In recent years, federal regulators have banned or restricted a growing list of natural remedies, including cramp bark, used by women to ease menstrual pains, and horsetail, a herb reputed to give people healthier hair, skin and nails. And critics argue that increasingly tough federal policies could eventually deprive Canadians of most traditional remedies.

Declares Robert McManis, science director for a vitamin and herbal manufacturer and spokesman for the Toronto-based Canadian Coalition for Health Protection, "We are fighting an unwarranted bureaucratic war that acts against products that are low-cost, safe and beneficial." As a result, growing numbers of Canadians are turning to natural health products, these alternatives are widely shared across the country. "I can't understand why Ottawa is doing this," says Josee Ingels, a retired Winnipeg schoolteacher. "They are banning things that help people preserve their health." In Vancouver, dozens among members of the city's large Chinese community that Ottawa plans to clamp down on traditional herbs have turned the topic into a hot issue during the campaign for the June 1 federal election. "If we herbs are banned or classified as drugs," says Linhui Yu, who runs a Vancouver herbal wholesale firm, "that's a serious threat to our Chinese culture."

Clearly concerned by the uproar, Ottawa announced early in May that it would set up an advisory panel, recruiting experts on herbals and consumers, to recommend regulatory changes. One possible concern would be to follow the example of the United States, which in 1995 set up a separate category for natural remedies so they could be regulated less strictly than prescription drugs. But the Canadian government has largely ignored the recommendations of two similar panels, which reported in 1986 and 1993. "And Ottawa is not declaring a moratorium on its current policies while the panel does its work," says McManis. The Health Protection Branch still has the power to do almost anything it wants to do.

While the list of natural remedies that Canada firms can produce or distribute is shrinking, the companies face a growing array of federal fees to help finance the

worldwide ban on natural health products. The facts are somewhat less alarming. A Codes committee is considering a proposal that would classify vitamins and mineral supplements—but not herbs—on foods and require that they be sold only at low dosages by members nations. Canada, Britain, Japan and the United States all oppose the proposal. There was also a proposal in 1994—by Canada—that Codes establish a list of potentially harmful herbs. But Ron Butler, who handles Codes-related affairs for the Health Protection Branch, told McManis that the idea was little support. Added Butler: "We'd be quite happy for Codes not to further consider this issue."

While the list of natural remedies that Canada firms can produce or distribute is shrinking, the companies face a growing array of federal fees to help finance the



Thain: herbal product dealers complain that federally imposed fees are eating up their profits

Federal officials insist that their only concern is to ensure that natural health products are effective and safe. Under regulations of 1984, Food and Drugs Act, anything that is sold for the prevention or treatment of a disease is considered a drug and required to have a federal drug identification number; available only to products that can supply proof of their effectiveness. In the past, Ottawa has tolerated the marketing of some herbs and supplements that lacked DRNs. But with the surge in sales of alternative remedies in recent years, federal policies have become increasingly stringent.

Many natural health advocates believe that actions by the loose-based organization Codes Alimentaire, which sets standards for international trade in food, could deprive them of even more products. Lately word of Internet articles claim that Codes—at the bidding of powerful pharmaceutical interests—is trying to bring about a virtual

Health Protection Branch's operations. The charges, ranging from DIN applications fees to a supplier's operating licence, are taken effect July 1, one add hundreds of thousands of dollars to a company's annual operating costs. "For some of our products, it's just not worth paying all the charges involved," says Don Swanson, a pharmacist who helps manage a chain of Vancouver health food and supplement stores. "So we just drop them."

Federal officials say that they are aware of the criticisms levelled at their policies. The new advisory panel, says Helene Gosselin, a senior policy adviser in the Health Protection Branch, "recognizes that a lot of people are concerned about accessibility of these products and the need to look at revised regulations." The challenge for Ottawa will be to balance the need for prudent supervision with the increasing demand for natural remedies.

MARK NICHOLS

Legal marathon

A.B.C. jury convicts 15 in an armed standoff

The trial took 10 months, its drama unfolding daily behind floor-to-ceiling bulletproof glass in the highest security courtroom in British Columbia. Spectators passed through a metal detector before entering the B.C. Supreme Court in Surrey, a residential suburb of Vancouver. Auditors deemed the proceedings necessary given the event under review: a month-long armed standoff culminating in a spectacular firefight in which, amazingly, no one was seriously injured. When the dust settled at remote Gootsen Lake in the B.C. interior in the summer of 1996, police charged 14 natives and four white supporters with 40 offences, including two counts of attempted murder. Last week, after weighing the testimony of 80 witnesses, considering 258 pieces of evidence, and deliberating for nine days, the six-man, six-woman jury reached its decision. Charging back tears

and holding an eagle feather, a sign of strength among aboriginal people, the jury foreman, James of native ancestry, delivered the verdicts: a total of 26 acquittals—including the attempted murder charges—and 21 convictions. With serious scheduling to begin next week, that ended one of the longest and most complex criminal trials in Canadian history. But the attitudes of racism and nativism that the trial exposed are still a bitter aftertaste.

The Crown contended that the defendants unlawfully occupied private property belonging to rancher Lyle Jones, and unlawfully shot at police—some and abducted those who did—to advance a political agenda. The accused maintained that the disputed lands were sacred territory, never ceded by na-



Walter, as leader, he could face life in prison

tives, which they occupied peacefully each year in order to hold a spiritual ceremony known as the Sundance. In 1996, some 60 natives stayed on the land longer than usual. Defence lawyers told the court that the Sundances became fearful after hostile ranch hands, serving a trespass notice, threatened to hang "and rape" them and the occupants fired warning shots in self-defence when unknown intruders—who later turned out to be members of an RCMP reconnaissance team dressed in camouflage gear—arrived the site.

In the largest paramilitary operation in B.C. history, costing an estimated \$5.5 million, 400 heavily armed RCMP officers surrounded the camp, backed by helicopters and armored personnel carriers supplied by the military. On Sept. 11, thousands of rounds were discharged in a 45-minute blast of gunfire. Six days later, the natives and their supporters, who had no backing from any mainstream native organization, surrendered.

The jury acquitted 12 of the 16 defendants accused of mischief endangering life, but convicted them of the lesser charge of mischief to property over \$5,000—available by all accounts of up to 10 years. Three of the accused were badly injured, including 17-year-old Joseph David Ignace, who has the intelligence of a six-year-old child as a result of fetal alcohol syndrome. He and his father, William (Walter) Jones Ignace, 66, whom the Crown called "the apparent leader of the armed standoff," faced the attempted murder charges. Walter could still spend life in prison after being found guilty of mischief endangering life, weapons possession, discharging a firearm to resist arrest, and using a firearm in the

commission of an indictable offence. Three co-defendants—natives James (J.J.) Pawanakoot, 25, and Edward Dick, 23, and white supporter Sutton Brown, 23—also face possible life imprisonment after the jury convicted them of mischief endangering life and weapons charges.

Throughout the trial, Walter and his supporters argued that Canadian courts have no jurisdiction over disputes involving Indians last never ceded through treaties. Instead, they say such matters should be heard by an impartial third-party tribunal. It is a controversial view, shared by native-rights lawyer Bruce Clark who spent two months in jail during the trial on contempt charges after calling an early Gootsen hearing a "savage court." The defendants also accused the police of dirty tricks. Defence lawyer Campbell Wood—retired RCMP officer who wears black cowboy boots under his robes—introduced an RCMP training video shot during the standoff in which officers openly discuss "distortion" and "savage campaigns." But the officers testified their words were meant to warn, and denied suggestions they were plotting to manipulate the media and discredit the natives.

After last week's verdict, Sgt. Peter Montague, the RCMP media relations officer assigned to Gootsen Lake, insisted that police acted responsibly. "We were dealing with a group of people who took the law as their bible and resorted to violence to do that," he said. "It's our mandate, our responsibility, to go in there and deal with those very serious situations." But others remained skeptical. "As far as I am concerned, the real tragedy here is that the convictions and the acquittals really aren't going to speak to the conduct of the RCMP when this was going on," said defence lawyer Doug Campbell, who called for a public inquiry. "I think that one thing we learned was that this was an avoidable situation, that this could have been easily resolved by careful negotiation at the time." Added Campbell: "I hope that if the RCMP inflicts any thing away from this, it is that these things do not need to be considered in a paramilitary operation."

Walter, who has been held in custody since his arrest, remained defiant at the state of the convictions. "We stood on constitutional and international law, which the judge refused to hear," he said in a statement released to Maclean's through an intermediary. "We were wrongfully convicted. That's fraud, treason and genocide." To many Canadians, including natives who favor negotiation over confrontation, Walter is now simply a convicted criminal. But is a group of supporters who stood and asked their faith in an angry native, as he left the courtroom, he has become a martyr to the cause, a true political prisoner.

SCOTT STEELE in Surrey

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So long, and thanks

Peter Gzowski hangs up his headphones

On May 30—after 2,000 hours of thought-provoking programming—*Morningside* with Peter Gzowski will broadcast its farewell to CBC Radio listeners who have followed the show since its debut on Sept. 4, 1982. Recently, the many voices of *Morningside* shared their memories of Canada's best-loved radio program with Maclean's Senior Writer Joe Chudley.

Peter Gzowski, host:

"There was a lovely moment when [Morningside regular] Stuart McLennan and I broke into totally uncontrollable giggles. Stuart had been sent out to see what he could buy for under 30 dollars. And his last thing was this little matchbox with a cricket in it—'You can get a pet for less than 30 bucks.' And he takes the cricket out and the thing just lies there. And I said, 'That cricket's dead, Stuart.' And he said, 'It's not dead.' And I said, 'Well, then, it's playing the bark noise of cricket life.' And both of us started to giggle. They had to play music because we couldn't talk. Then we came back on—and started giggling again. It was just a beautiful performance. But the only criticism we got was from people who said they'd driven off the road from laughing so hard."

"The best interviews were the ones that surprised me. They're not [necessarily] the ones with the prize winner or the great author but, rather, people like Billy Dumas, a victim of sexual abuse, or a scientist whose work gives him pride. Dumas' *Witness*, the subtitle was, was very moving. She talked about the struggle to quelling pain and the color of each blade of grass. It was quite wonderful."

"With the show ending, the mail has just been overwhelming. It's real very nice, and it's all, 'What are we going to do without Morningside?' But what am I going to do without Morningside? This is a really difficult time for me. I intend to do more in the radio and maybe some television, and some writing, but right now, it's just difficult."

Shelagh Rogers, frequent guest on Gzowski and the show's letters-reader for the past 12 years:

"I first encountered Peter while I was working at [the CBC Toronto show] *Afternoon*. When he came to promote his first golf tournament for literacy. When he walked in the door, I felt really small. I went up to him and I said, 'This is so weird, it's like he's coming to Dursley. About a month or two later, I got a call inviting me to be letters on *Morningside*."

"I think [on Morningside] there were a lot of disasters that were always about to happen. It is such a relief of a job. That's the fun of



Gzowski: The mail has been overwhelming... it's a really difficult time for me.

it, too. It's like jumping from fly pad to fly pad and keeping they'll stay together. And if you like that kind of juggling, it's a real buzz. But it's a grind, five days a week. 10 interviews a day. I just wonder how Peter before it for 15 years. But he hadn't been as committed and talented as he is, it wouldn't have worked. And it did work."

Darren Crisp, political journalist:

"I always had the lucky watch on the point, because I was usually late [in New Brunswick] and I was on—live—at 9 o'clock my time. But when [former B.C. premier and journalist in the 1980s] Dave Barrett was on British Columbia, God knows what time it was. I remember we were all voluntarily underpaid. One time we had a spelling in Toronto, and Barrett, who was very disorganized, complained he only got paid \$125 a show. And I said, 'God, is that all they're paying you?' We all got paid the same, of course, but he was paranoid for weeks."

Larry Schorn, writer and Maclean's magazine producer, 1989-1989:

"I wanted to bring on the program three people who would talk about American Sign Language and the politics of the deaf. Now, when you're deaf you have to use both the hand, the mouth, and your fingertips, so the way you act up there people is very, very important. Judy Rebick, who was then the director of social projects at the Canadian Hearing Society, set up the studio on what she thought was the perfect alignment. We did this live—it was crazy when I think about it. Anyway, during a five-minute news break, we brought in the six people. And suddenly there's all this connection—it's them signing to each other, because they're speaking, the sign language is all wrong. And Judy's just about there to resignate. The producers are breaking out. Down to two minutes, one minute, finally we get a signal. And just as the studio door closes behind us, Peter goes into his intro. And it turned out to be just a wonderful piece of radio. So I remember that very fondly because it worked, because it could have been calamitous, and because it was a first."

Steven Page, lead singer for the Striped Ashes:

"[Our mix review] was just before we set off on our first national tour in 1991—this was back when we'd pile all our equipment and ourselves into a rental van and go west. And people would come up to us at shows—people from all age groups, grandparents included—and say, 'Oh, I heard you on Gzowski so I had to make the two-hour drive and come see you.' At first, you kind of think, well, yes, Morningside is for our parents. But then, an ex-cousin of the country, you realize that the show is kind of an anchor to remind you that no matter where you are, you're still in Canada."

The female contenders

The identity of at least half of the team destined to succeed Peter Gzowski has been one of the week-end secrets at the CBC. Almost from the moment Gzowski resigned his intention to step aside this spring, there has only been one serious contender for the job as male co-host of the redesigned program that will replace *Morningside* this fall. And even though the CBC has yet to cast a signature on a contract, when the new show debuts, the malice words of the man at the helm will belong to Michael Enright.

For the past decade, Enright, 54, has been winning a following—and awards—as host of the CBC's highly rated evening show, *At It Happens*. In public, both the corporation and Enright himself have been coy about the state of the ongoing contract negotiations. But Karen Levine,



McLennan, Gzowski, Rogers (left) dead cricket and into of laughter

Stuart McLennan, frequent guest on Gzowski and the show's letters-reader for the past 12 years:

"My secret was we really came planned out to this people realize—the art was to make them sound completely spontaneous and informal. But I couldn't afford to have Gzowski take me a question that would send me off to left field. So his questions to me would be scripted, right? Sometimes I'd write him questions of disbelief. Like 'Oh, come on,' or 'Oh, that's not true,' or 'You don't know what you're talking about.' And the last thing was, I'd get these letters back from listeners, saying Gzowski's so mean to me."

"But he was really great, you know? Peter's a very good journalist—he's got a great memory, and a great mind for story structure, but he would should a question and how he used to write his openings on this beautiful old typewriter. By the time I came in, there'd be ashes all over it and the ribbon would be torn. I'd change the ribbon, and then I'd always type my byline on that typewriter, too. I figured if it worked for him, it might work for me."

Shelagh Rogers, frequent guest on Gzowski and the show's letters-reader for the past 12 years:

"There are some people and some institutions who simply believe dead points of what it means to be Canadian. And Peter has very admirably pointed that person. He's a very gentle, calm presence in the best sense of the word, accommodating, unbothered and yet unapologetically rigorous. Whether it's the RCMP or the CBC, or [Gzowski] knew this of the Montreal Canadiens, or Peter Gzowski—or at least these little institutions. That will be a challenge for Morningside's successor. It will be to develop a relationship around which Canadians from sea to sea can say, 'Look, this is Canadian. This is Canada.' It's not going to be easy."

Enright's executive producer at *At It Happens*, as well as his life-in-companion and the mother of his two-year-old son, Gabriel, has already signed an with the new evening show. And CBC insiders report that Enright is close to annulling a three-year deal that would see the Toronto-born broadcaster, a fixture in Canadian journalism for more than three decades, step into Gzowski's shoes later this year.

If Enright's partnership is firm, however, the identity of his female co-host is not. The obvious candidate for the job, Gzowski's frequent on-air partner Shelagh Rogers, is not in the running. As Anne, CBC Radio's director of programming, called Rogers "a valued part" of the network, but declined to comment on her prospects for the new morning show. One corporation source, however, said the broadcaster "Shelagh's go Rosedale"—a reference to the upstart Toronto enclave.

With Rogers out of contention, CBC executives have narrowed a long list of candidates down to three leading contenders

"Lisa Slesniak, 44, co-host of CBC-TV's *Military*, appears to be the favorite. But two others, Cliff Olf and Lavinia Stover, are close behind. Both are regular contributors to CBC-TV's *Regional Magazine*, which follows the nightly 10 p.m. *National* newscast. Olf covers current affairs for the show, while Brown deals with the arts."

Other in-house names continue to circulate. Cliff Olf and Lavinia Stover, who close behind both are regular contributors to CBC-TV's *Regional Magazine*, which follows the nightly 10 p.m. *National* newscast. Olf covers current affairs for the show, while Brown deals with the arts."

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BARRY CAHILL

Allan Fotheringham

Notes from the Most Boring Election ever

The plot so far... The Unnecessary Election, called a year and one-half before the federal mandate was out, has now been declared by *The Gazette* *Book of Records* as the Most Boring Election ever held. The reason it was necessary, the Prime Minister explained in the Most Boring TV Debate ever held, was because the main opposing parties had gone out and started campaigning, thus forcing the poor outcasted Grits to rush to the ballroom. This was judged by *Gazette* as the Biggest Lie ever told in public. So far.

The highlights of this exciting race have been: Gilles Duceppe's last day we couldn't draw, Gilles Duceppe fired his campaign manager and Gilles Duceppe was photographed wearing a shower cap in a cheese factory. It was agreed that he, indeed, is taking a bath in this election. Finally, Gilles Duceppe pleaded with Jacques Parizeau that the *Gazette* people said was like throwing an anchor on a drowning man.

While this went on, the Prime Minister disappeared through the entire campaign. This is funny, since voters don't offer the first week. The PM actually looks like he could only be awakened if he could find another unemployed demonstrator to slog. In this eventuality, he is said to be carrying an Irish carver in his hip pocket.

The war that of the whole election, it turns out, was the comedy Claire Lavaché, who apparently is the *Opinion* of Quebec TV and poured out after hearing Preston Manning attempt French. For this ludicrous happening, she received 123,958 e-mail messages of thanks from grateful voters—and an invitation to appear on *The Quebec Wipey Show*.

For his part, Manning confessed to a *Globe* and *Mail* columnist that he now dyes his hair, had laser operations on his eyes so he can throw away his acrylic glasses and has had his teeth ground down and later had his teeth applied to him, by explanation, they were a disguise to the Alberta dental profession. This is called the *New Politics*.

The other really important development of the Unnecessary and Boring Election is the shocking news that the former United Church minister from Prince Edward Island, David MacDonald, is now sleeping with NDP Leader Alexa McDonough. And apparently



he enjoys it all so much that he is now running as her party's candidate in Toronto's Rosedale, one of the country's richest ridings, which he last represented as a Tory MP after being a Tory cabinet minister. It is understood they love both being booked on *Opinion*.

To make matters more shocking, it has now been revealed that McDonough, who inherited wealth from her late millionaire father, a devout socialist and devil businessman, has never been divorced, her husband having taken up with an actress in another. On hearing this, *The Gazette* *Opinion* Show has also booked them.

In the meantime, a furious dispute has broken out among the Conservative brass. Half of them want Jean Charest to junk the piers, since they say it reminds the voters of Harper Mark. The opposing brass members and spin doctors say it won't do any good, since Parizeau has evicted the country's entire secretary of defence.

To help things out, Mike Harris, the golf pro who masquerades as the premier of Ontario, refuses to follow his fellow-Tory preachers Ralph Klein and Gary Filmon in endorsing Charest and says he wants to have voters to stay neutral. This follows according to reports that the last book he ever read featured the Hardy Boys. The *Gazette* people say they are looking for a category that would accommodate this fact.

By now, almost lost in the haze is that Jolly Jacques, who has attempted to be back Mr. Harcourt's election, has confessed that he doesn't even remember what he wrote, thus becoming one of the 30 million Canadians who have neglected to read his book. He is the only author in history to issue a denial of what his own words mean. Pierre Berton's best-selling book *Back to the Future* remains safe.

The sarcastic Prime Minister is so beloved that, after losing one photographed snoring at Waterplog the day before calling The Unnecessary Election, it is estimated he will lose at least four of the 12 seats (out of 10) he owns in Manitoba. He will blame it on the opposing parties for forcing his unwilling hand to call this election.

The election campaign that never was has also been marked by The Invisible Man, the famous ghoul of the realm, who has wisely concluded that if he keeps his head down and says nothing, he will inherit the earth. As he will, Sheila Copps has also been wisely silent. We do not know why, but a general action gives thanks.

All in all, it's been a swell trip. We really needed to know all about Preston's teeth problems and Gilles's hairnet problems and Alexa's sex life and Mike's reading habits. It's things like that that feed the nation's interest.

Jolly Jacques didn't really write the book he wrote and the PM was forced to call the election he didn't want and Mike can't figure out what party he really belongs to. This fits in with an electorate that can't figure out what it wants because the rashness being offered up resembles a dog's breakfast gone bad.

If you really want to see what went on, tune in *Opinion* and *Gazette*.

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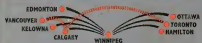
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